



# Thirty-seventh National Report Disabled American Veterans 1957



January 16, 1958.—Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and  
ordered to be printed, with illustrations

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UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1958

**PUBLIC LAW NO. 249, 77TH CONGRESS**

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That hereafter the proceedings of the national encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic, the United Spanish War Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the American Legion, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the Disabled American Veterans of the World War, respectively, shall be printed annually, with accompanying illustrations, as separate House documents of the session of Congress to which they may be submitted.

Approved September 18, 1941.

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## LETTER OF SUBMITTAL

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS,  
*Cincinnati, Ohio, November 12, 1957.*

HON. SAM RAYBURN,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: As business manager of the Disabled American Veterans, and as secretary of its national convention, I certify as to the authenticity of the reports and the proceedings of our national gathering, held in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19 through 23, 1957, and submit them to you through the office of this organization located in Washington, D. C., pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 249, 77th Congress, approved September 18, 1941, to be printed as a House document in accordance with the authorization of such Public Law 249.

The enclosed national convention proceedings include the report of the proceedings of the Disabled American Veterans for its last preceding annual year, ending December 31, 1956, including full and complete report of its receipts and expenditures, as required by the provisions of section 9, Public Law 668, approved July 15, 1942.

Respectfully submitted.

VIVIAN D. CORBLY,  
*National Adjutant.*

## NATIONAL OFFICERS

1957-58

*National Commander*

PAUL E. FREDERICK, JR.

*Senior Vice Commander*

H. L. DAVIDSON

*First Junior Vice Commander*

HARRY WENTWORTH

*Second Junior Vice Commander*

PAUL HARMON

*Third Junior Vice Commander*

HOWARD H. FAIRBANKS

*Fourth Junior Vice Commander*

GORDON N. McDONALD

*National Judge Advocate*

SYLVESTER HOFFMANN

*National Chaplain*

RABBI LOUIS PARRIS

*Past National Commander*

JOSEPH F. BURKE

*National Executive Committee*

First District: JEROME P. TROY

Second District: JAMES SCHNEIDER

Third District: MARVIN SILVER

Fourth District: ALBERT C. ALLEN

Fifth District: ALBERT CUEVO

Sixth District: JOHN A. BROWN, Sr.

Seventh District: EDWARD A. GAFFORD

Eighth District: CASMIR ZABIK

Ninth District: BILL H. FRIBLEY

Tenth District: WM. GORDON HUGHES

Eleventh District: ELOY GONZALES

Twelfth District: LEO C. DE LAPP, Sr.

Thirteenth District: WAYNE L. SHEIRBON

Fourteenth District: HAROLD L. GOODWIN

*Blind Veterans National Chapter*

CLOUD H. BRYAN

*National Director of Claims*

CICERO F. HOGAN

*National Director of Employment*

JOHN W. BURRIS

*National Director of Legislation*

O. W. CLARK

*National Finance Committee*

DAVID B. WILLIAMS, Chairman

BONIFACE R. MAILE

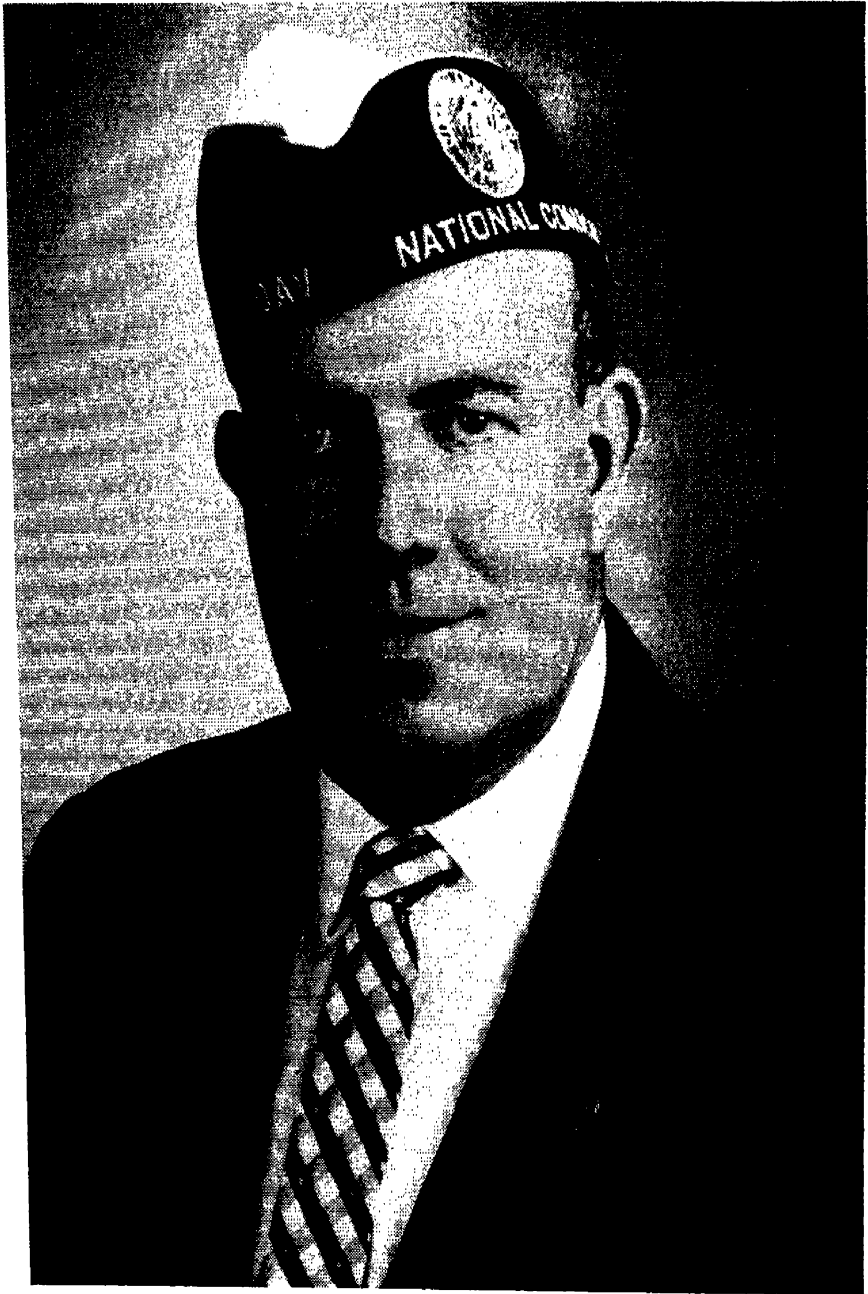
FLOYD L. MING

ROBERT F. MC FARLAND

PAUL E. FREDERICK, Jr.



PAUL E. FREDERICK, JR.  
NATIONAL COMMANDER, 1957-58



JOSEPH F. BURKE  
NATIONAL COMMANDER, 1956-57

## NATIONAL OFFICERS

1956-57

*National Commander*

JOSEPH F. BURKE

*Senior Vice Commander*

PAUL FREDERICK

*First Junior Vice Commander*

ARVO T. HIETALA

*Second Junior Vice Commander*

HARRY WENTWORTH

*Third Junior Vice Commander*

H. L. DAVIDSON

*Fourth Junior Vice Commander*

DAVID B. WILLIAMS

*National Judge Advocate*

SYLVESTER HOFFMANN

*National Chaplain*

REV. JOS. C. PICKETT

*Past National Commander*

MAJ. GEN. MELVIN J. MAAS

*National Executive Committee*

First District : ARMAND F. PLAISANCE  
Second District : FREDERICK RUNDBAKEN  
Third District : GEORGE L. BECK  
Fourth District : ROBERT DOVE  
Fifth District : EUGENE D. CALDWELL  
Sixth District : J. C. BROOM  
Seventh District : HARLEY WARD  
Eighth District : MATTHEW J. WEREL  
Ninth District : PAUL A. HARMON  
Tenth District : CLARENCE QUIGLEY  
Eleventh District : TRACY ASTLE  
Twelfth District : ELMER ALLMEROOTH  
Thirteenth District : RUSSEL ROCK  
Fourteenth District : CHARLES M. STEESE

*Blind Veterans National Chapter*

A. M. DRISCOLL

*National Director of Claims*

CICERO F. HOGAN

*National Director of Employment*

JOHN W. BURRIS

*National Director of Legislation*

O. W. CLARK

*National Finance Committee*

FRANCIS BUONO, Chairman  
BONIFACE R. MAILE  
FLOYD MING  
ROBERT J. MC FARLAND  
JOSEPH F. BURKE

## PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS

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- 1921-22. Robert S. Marx, Ohio.  
1922-23. C. Hamilton Cook, New York (deceased 1935).  
1923-24. James A. McFarland, Georgia (deceased 1936).  
1924-25. Frank J. Irwin, New York (deceased 1942).  
1925-26. John W. Mahan, Montana (deceased 1947).  
1926-27. John V. Clinnin, Illinois (deceased 1955).  
1927-28. William E. Tate, Georgia (deceased 1949).  
1928-29. Millard W. Rice, Minnesota.  
1929-30. William J. Murphy, California (deceased 1931).  
1930-31. Herman H. Weimer, Illinois (deceased 1955).  
1931-32. E. Claude Babcock, District of Columbia.  
1932-33. William Conley, California (deceased 1941).  
1933-34. Joe W. McQueen, Missouri.  
1934-35. Volney P. Mooney, Jr., California (deceased 1945).  
1935-36. Marvin A. Harlan, Texas.  
1936-37. M. Froome, Barbour, Ohio.  
1937-38. Maple T. Harl, Colorado (deceased 1957).  
1938-39. Owen A. Galvin, Minnesota (deceased 1956).  
1939-40. Lewis J. Murphy, Indiana.  
1940-41. Vincent E. Schoeck, Michigan.  
August 16, 1941-August 15, 1943. Maj. Laurence R. Melton, Texas.  
August 15, 1943-September 20, 1943. William J. Dodd, New Jersey.  
1943-44. James L. Monnahan, Minnesota.  
1944-45. Milton D. Cohn, Buffalo, N. Y.  
1945-46. Dow V. Walker, Newport, Oreg. (deceased 1947).  
1946-47. Lloyd F. Oleson, Ventura, Calif.  
1947-48. John L. Golob, Hibbing, Minn.  
1948-49. Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright, San Antonio, Tex. (deceased 1953).  
1949-50. David M. Brown, Akron, Ohio.  
1950-51. Boniface R. Maile, Detroit, Mich.  
1951-52. Ewing W. Mays, Little Rock, Ark.  
1952-53. Floyd L. Ming, Bakersfield, Calif.  
1953-54. Howard W. Watts, Indianapolis, Ind.  
1954-55. Alfred L. English, Shelbyville, Tenn.  
1955-56. Maj. Gen. Melvin J. Maas (retired USMC), Maryland.  
1956-57. Joseph F. Burke, Bayonne, N. J.



# PROCEEDINGS OF THE 36TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, HELD AT BUFFALO, N. Y., AUGUST 19-24, 1957

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The convention program of the 36th Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans began with the commander's reception, which took place in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., on Sunday evening, August 18, 1957.

The joint opening session of the 36th Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans and the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary was held in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., at 10 a. m., Monday, August 19, 1957.

A concert by the United States Naval Base Band, New York, under the direction of Warrant Officer D. W. Stauffer, preceded the call to order by Assistant National Adjutant John Feighner.

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGNER. Officer of the Day, stand ready to present the colors.

In accordance with the provisions of our Federal charter, and the constitution and bylaws of the Disabled American Veterans, I, John E. Feighner, assistant national adjutant, declare the 36th annual convention of this organization now in session.

It is my privilege to present to you the national chaplain of our organization, the Reverend Joseph C. Pickett, of New Orleans, La.

National Chaplain, will you give the invocation?

National Chaplain PICKETT. O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth. In the name of our Saviour who said that men should at all times pray with faith in Thee, and never faint, we assemble in Thy presence knowing Thy promise that if we draw near to Thee, Thou wilt draw near to us.

In Thee we live and move and have our being. Thou dost answer before even we call, doing more than we can ask or even think, according to Thy promise. We assemble in the Name that is above every other name, confessing Him as best we know how, as Lord of our lives. As He shows scars received for us, may we know why. As those of us wear scars of battle may it be in His spirit, too.

Bless all of us here today and all of our proceedings as we acknowledge Thee in all our ways, asking that Thou direct our affairs. We ask these and all other needed blessings in His name and His righteousness which is ours through faith in Him, always giving Thee thanks for Thy guidance and Thy leadership. We pray together. Amen.

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGNER. Officer of the Day, Louis Neubeck, present the colors.

(The colors posted and the national anthem was sung.)

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGNER. The music this morning has been furnished by the New York Naval Base Band, Warrant Officer Donald W. Stauffer, directing.

Prior to the presentation of the State colors, in order to give them sufficient time it is my privilege at this time to call this convention to order.

It is also my privilege and pleasure to introduce to you a comrade who has devoted many, many years effort, work, and time in behalf of disabled veterans and in behalf of the Disabled American Veterans organization, one of its early founders and pioneers. For introductions I wish to present to this convention, chairman of the convention, Frank Williams, of Buffalo, N. Y. [Applause.]

Convention Chairman FRANK J. WILLIAMS. Thank you, Jack, for those kind words.

I have accomplished my mission, mission accomplished. It has been a dream of my life, and I mean of course since World War I, call it my early life if you like, or my later life, that it would be possible to gather into our city of Buffalo, delegates fighting the cause of our comrades and their families to a national convention. And that is why I say, "mission accomplished." We welcome you to this great city and trust that in your deliberations with the help of God, and also in your moments of entertainment and relaxation, that you will have a week well spent and a highlight in your life for this year as it is in mine.

I could go on telling you many, many things that have happened in the 36 years in Buffalo since I was your first department commander in 1921 and 1922. But you can read about that in your program if you desire. So we will get to the business of introducing, which I am privileged to do, our guests on the platform at this time.

Like every organization that tries to recognize their brother organizations I would like at this time to introduce to you the current commander, on the county level, Donald Griffin, the County Commander of the American Legion. [Applause.]

I would next like to introduce to you representing the County of Erie, Mr. Lester Miller, Board of Supervisors of the County of Erie. [Applause.]

Would you like to say a word, Mr. Miller, just a minute?

Mr. LESTER MILLER (Board of Supervisors, Erie County). Mr. Chairman, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen of the convention. It is always a pleasure to play the role of host when the guests are as gracious and notable as you are. Metropolitan Buffalo which comprises a great part of the county of Erie is a very important part of our Nation. Erie County is 13th in population among all the counties, some 1,500, of the Nation. It has a population greater than 12 of the States of the United States. It has varied industries and varied people and we all live together in harmony.

We are not unmindful of what you ladies and gentlemen have done individually in the past on a most heroic scale, nor are we unmindful of what you have been doing and will continue to do as a national organization, collectively.

We are very proud that you have chosen Buffalo and Erie County for your 36th national convention. We hope that your stay here will be a very pleasant one, and we hope that when you leave it will always have an important niche in your memory. We trust you will want to return. Thank you. [Applause.]

Convention Chairman WILLIAMS. They may not all be on the platform but they have all been extended an invitation, and I will go through the list as I have it in front of me.

I would like to introduce to you a man that has assisted me in working hours and after working hours, day in and day out, to make this convention a success in all its facets. The fact of the matter is, I don't know what I would have done without him, and I have probably imposed on the national headquarters when I have used him through the day which I have been careful not to do, when he was occupied in his service work. You know I was a service officer once, a volunteer service officer, for this organization away back in the early 1920's and later on, of course, for other organizations, but that is the work that is so near and dear to my heart. To me it exemplifies what this organization stands for, and I would like Jim Zoghibe to stand up and let's give him a round of applause for his efforts in not only helping this convention committee, but in all the work that he is doing day and night in the service office here in Buffalo and surrounding western New York, of which he is in charge. Jim, stand up and take a bow. [Applause.]

I wanted him to say something, but he absolutely refuses to talk.

Frank Page, the department service officer for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Frank, take a bow. [Applause.]

Leo Sweeney, the director of the Buffalo, N. Y., district, New York State Employment Service. Mr. Sweeney. [Applause.]

I would now like to introduce the representative of the regional vice commander of the World War I Veterans Association, Mr. Martin, to take a bow for that organization. [Applause.]

Now we have our own department commander of New York State, Emil Fasolino, who has traveled from one end of the State to the other to get here. Emil will have 2 minutes to greet you to this convention.

New York State Commander EMIL FASOLINO. As commander of the Department of New York of Disabled American Veterans, it is my privilege to extend a hearty welcome to all my comrades from all over the States to the 36th national convention here in Buffalo. It is a great honor knowing you have selected New York State to hold this convention, and especially at a time when so many important results of the important work of the DAV hinges on the outcome of this convention.

I know that you will have a fine time here in Buffalo because it is a real convention city. We have been here before, and with Frank Williams the head and his fine staff, they have planned a very, very nice convention, and we wish you a very, very pleasant stay here in Buffalo.

Thank you. [Applause.]

Convention Chairman WILLIAMS. Thank you.

We have a service officer in the regional office of the AMVETS and he is doing a splendid job, Peter Cavaretta, of the AMVETS. Service officer. [Applause.]

We have a county organization of our DAV, we have officers in the city hall, you are all invited to go over there and visit that office and look out on the lake and see this beautiful surrounding country and adjoining Canada from our office window. I would like to

introduce to you now Dr. George Wildridge, our county commander of the DAV, to say a few remarks.

Erie County Commander WILDRIDGE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

National Commander Burke, distinguished guests, delegates, and alternates to this convention, and the Auxiliary convention, ladies and gentleman all: It gives me great pleasure, on behalf of Erie County Committee of the Disabled American Veterans, to welcome you to the city of Buffalo. May you be wise in your deliberations, sound in your judgment, and may unity and harmony prevail so that naught but good will come out of this convention. We also wish for you a most pleasant and most hospitable stay in Buffalo and its environs, and upon your departure from this city may you carry with you fond memories of this, the 36th national convention which was held here in the city of Buffalo, N. Y. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Convention Chairman WILLIAMS. We have in this State here, like California and other States, the division of veterans affairs, State of New York, who work very closely with our accredited service officers in all veteran organizations.

I would like to introduce to you at this time Col. Marshall Rudolph, who has this area including 14 States for the division of veterans affairs. Colonel Rudolph. [Applause.]

One of the gentlemen that I was to introduce is no less than our own Milton Cohn, past national commander, who is the honorary chairman, so named by our convention committee, for this affair. He is in a room in the hotel. Later on you might have the privilege of seeing him around but I want you to know that down through the years I have had the pleasure of knowing Milt, working with him and he is still with us, pitching for this organization in any way that he can. You will see him later.

Bob Glasser, our sheriff, is not present but he also is helping us tremendously in the convention.

I think now that I have covered all the representatives of the organization down to the point where, of course, I am very proud and privileged to introduce to you a member of our organization for many years since his service in World War II. He is now the controller of the city of Buffalo and if you had come here next year maybe he would have greeted you as the mayor of the city of Buffalo.

Chet Kowal is remarkable in many ways. Because he has helped us on this convention committee as chairman of finance. We have used his office and his staff. He has sat with us many hours discussing details and arrangements. But this morning he comes to you to greet you for the city of Buffalo and welcome you in every way that he sees fit. Chet, it is all yours.

Mr. CHESTER KOWAL (representing city of Buffalo). Comrade Frank, National Commander Burke, officers, the Auxiliary, and my fellow comrades: Comrade Frank, first I would be remiss I should say, if I didn't express my thanks for the very gracious manner in which you have introduced me on this occasion. And after the very fine theme that was set here by the previous speakers and making things as brief as possible, I can't help but feel like the Irishman on a dying bed for whom the family had sent for a priest to hear confession and administer the last rites. And after the priest had heard the confession he turned to Pat and said, "Now, Pat, are you prepared

in the manner in which you should be prepared to meet your maker? Have you made a good confession?"

And Pat turned to the priest and said, "I certainly did, Father."

He said, "In that case, are you ready to renounce the devil and all he stands for?"

Pat thought a minute and then said, "As much as I'd like to do that, Father, at a time like this I am hardly in a position to antagonize anybody."

My comrade Frank said he will limit everyone to 2 minutes but he will give me 4. I hope I can do the kind of job I should do on this occasion within that time, and I think I will because I am happy to be in the fellowship of this great convention. It is always a pleasure to see old friends and make new ones, men and women whose concept of loyalty and patriotism have been refined through their experience on a battlefield.

I feel especially highly honored today in having the privilege of officially welcoming to the city of Buffalo my fellow members of the Disabled American Veterans who have come from all over the country to the City of Good Neighbors for this 36th national convention, and I would like to have you know that the word "welcome" for those of us who come from the City of Good Neighbors has a special and significant meaning and that we would like to have you feel that I am conveying to you the special and individual greetings of all of our citizens on this occasion.

I am sure that we are going to have one of our finest conventions and I am sure that Comrade Frank Williams is looking forward to that. Our business sessions are going to be and must be fruitful and we are going to accomplish many good things on behalf of our comrades in accordance with our long established belief and our reliance upon the basic American principles that human values come first, that we are not going to be hoodwinked by those who only give lip service to principle. We, unfortunately, are in such a position that we cannot. We are an organization of action; and, to keep faith with the disabled, the widow, and the orphan who are victims of war, we must in good conscience try, and keep trying, to translate principles into living and breathing reality. In other words, to make democracy work by preventing any impairment of the time-honored compensation due the defenders of our Nation in time of war. And in that endeavor undoubtedly we will encounter opposition from certain selfish interests, and we did when we openly prevented the dismemberment of the Veterans' Administration, when we are now trying to battle down some proposals of the Bradley Commission which would weaken and eventually do away perhaps with certain types of pensions which were started on this glorious soil of this Nation not 100 years ago, not 200 years ago, but it may be of interest to you to know that it was started 300 years ago by the colonists of Virginia and Plymouth. And 181 years ago the first Federal enactment was made by the Continental Congress and 155 years ago pensions were provided for peacetime soldiers. The proponents for the abolition or reduction of these benefits are just as vocal today as the day when they first proposed them. We must, therefore, gird ourselves in battle for them again as we will do something by which to advance the welfare of our comrades who through no fault of their own, and service of our Nation, find themselves on the lower rungs of the economic ladder.

Moreover, I predict that we are also going to have a fine, pleasant, and enjoyable time. I want to assure you that the officials of the city of Buffalo have made every effort, with the cooperation of the committee, to make that possible.

Our organization has well justified its existence during the past 36 years by its support of worthwhile laws and legislation, as well as humanitarian ideas that have been of great benefit to those who have been wounded in battle in defense of our country on battlefields throughout the world. These benefits are not charity. These veterans have earned those benefits. In fact, those benefits should be enlarged and I hope that will be possible through our annual meetings. Our comrades are entitled to nothing but the best of care and treatment and surely this is but a small recognition of the great sacrifices they made for all of our people, sacrifices that in many instances will continue for the rest of their lives.

I am confident that we will continue to foster the ideals of security for our disabled comrades and I am equally confident that a grateful people will continue to recognize this great debt of gratitude that our Nation owes to these brave men and women who have helped to build this country to its present eminent position in the nations of the world. Some of us who are more fortunate than others in fighting our Nation's wars may find it difficult to match the willingness and spirit with which our disabled veterans served in battle conditions.

I want to assure you that the people of the city of Buffalo are extremely proud to be able to play host to you on this occasion and I think you will find vivid evidence of that in the editorials of our local newspapers. It is our hope and my hope both as your comrade and as a city official that you will take away with you memories from your visit here as we shall cherish the memory of our deliberations here in the city of Buffalo on this occasion. Good luck to you and God bless you all.

Convention Chairman WILLIAMS. I would just like to say this, that I came on the platform without my hat but I am properly attired now and this is my department service hat that I am wearing and the only reason I don't wear it is because I do have trouble with a headache from the cap.

Now I will return the gavel to the national assistant adjutant, Jack Feighner. Thank you, Jack.

Officer Of The Day NEUBECK. Comrade Commander, I have the honor of announcing the arrival of Congressman Olin Teague from Texas.

National Assistant Adjutant FEIGNER. The officer of the day will escort Congressman Teague to the platform.

(Congressman Teague was escorted to the platform.)

National Assistant Adjutant FEIGNER. A year ago at San Antonio, one of the vice commanders received a very important assignment. He was to contact all the States of the Union and to urge them to urge their delegation to present their State flags to the national headquarters, the flags to be used at national conventions and displayed at each national convention on the rostrum. I have the pleasure today of introducing to you that vice commander, who will be in charge of the program of State flag presentation. Buster Davidson, from Georgia. [Applause.]

Third Junior Vice Commander H. L. DAVIDSON. Thank you, Comrade Feighner.

My comrades, we started this flag program in San Antonio, it looked good and as it went along it looked better. We have heard from most States, we have heard from a lot of States that have confirmed their flags that are not here. According to our record we are going to call the States that are here, and have them present them now. A little later when other flags come in we want them on the rostrum, too.

So as I call the names of the States, and I will call them two at a time, if they will come forward I will appreciate it.

(Presentation and posting of State flags by State commanders.)

National Assistant Adjutant FEIGNER. We are indeed grateful to the New York Naval Base Band and to its director, Donald W. Stauffer. At this time we will excuse them. They will be with us at the afternoon session and also in the memorial services this evening. [Applause.]

It is my happy pleasure to now present to you the man that has been traveling throughout the country this year representing Disabled American Veterans. He has done an outstanding job. You have seen him in action and we are now having the pleasure of seeing him in action before the entire body, your national commander, Joseph F. Burke.

(The convention rose to applaud National Commander Burke.)

National Commander BURKE. I have always told you fellows a gentleman should never make a lady stand in the presence of a bachelor.

Good morning. In the interest of time, and due to the fact that there is somebody on this platform in whom we in the DAV have personal pride because he is a member of our organization, and an affection because he is the type that he is, I am going to introduce our keynote speaker this morning. I may take a little time because I have something to say to you as regards this man.

Some years ago when I was a fledging vice commander, with the ambitions every disabled veteran has of being a national commander, I was in Washington and I went to this Congressman's office. It wasn't very hard to secure an appointment. I got into his inner sanctum very easily. He was very approachable, and in talking to him I think that we sort of sensed a belief in each other, in disabled veterans, and the cause we represented because he told me something that I have taken full advantage of. He said, "If you ever need advice or counsel, if you need a friend, call me."

Last year this same Congressman was castigated at times throughout this country as not being really a friend of the veteran. Well, he is not only a friend of the veteran but he is an extremely great friend of the disabled veteran. He proved his affection and loyalty time and time again. I make no bones about the fact that I must have called him 50 times this year when I was in difficulty in the Navy situation, when we were in difficulty with H. R. 52. I sought his counsel and guidance. He gave it to me freely. He gave his help, he secured the appointments for us in the Navy situation. He has done everything we in the disabled veterans have ever asked a Congressman to do.

He is a life member of this organization. He is the one man in this country who knew what to do at this session of Congress when everyone said you couldn't pass H. R. 52 in an off-election year. That only when Congressmen are running for office do they pass this type of legislation. He had more confidence in his own Congress than the people in the United States making those sort of remarks have, because he said he would pass it. And to him and Harry Byrd, who also has been accused of not being a friend of the disabled veterans, this convention owes, in their names, a rising vote of applause and confidence for one of the finest Congressmen, one of the greatest gentlemen I have ever met, and to our friend and your friend from Texas, the Honorable Olin E. Teague, chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, and to Senator Harry Byrd, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

(The convention rose to applaud.)

Congressman OLIN E. TEAGUE. Thank you, Joe.

Joe said I was the keynote speaker. I didn't come out here to make a speech. I came out here to give you people a report from the Congress as far as veterans' affairs is concerned. We need a much better understanding between those of us who are trying to represent you in Washington, and the veterans over the country. If we had had better understanding last year there would have been approximately \$170 million dollars go into the pockets of the disabled this year instead of our sitting here now waiting for the bill to be signed.

It has been a great pleasure to work with Joe Burke. I have wished that every disabled veteran could come to our committee in Washington, could come to my office and see and know what we try to do as far as veterans are concerned. It is very easy to be a demagog in Washington to all veterans. It isn't as easy to put first things first and try to get those things passed before you do other things.

Joe said that I was castigated a lot in a number of parts of the country last year and that is true. It is not easy to represent veterans in Washington. You have no idea what a lot of people will do. They will call your home and talk disrespectfully to your wife, your children, and other things. If they understood more what was going on I am sure they wouldn't do that.

I think that Joe probably has a better understanding of what happens as far as veteran legislation than any national commander of any organization. Joe has worked harder than any national commander of any veterans' organization and I think I know. Joe hasn't taken the easy road. He has taken the road that he thought was the right road and the way to get something accomplished.

H. R. 52 has not been signed. I talked to the White House just before I came down from my room and there is no report on it, but I have every confidence that it will be signed.

Speaking of castigation and displeasure with people, I want to say a word about a man that is here and that you will hear from later. A man that I actually have no reason to say anything for or against except for the fact that I think it is right, in fact, I know it is right, and because some of my own good friends in Texas don't feel toward him the way I do. That is Mr. Harvey Higley, our Administrator of Veterans' Affairs. Mr. Higley is a Republican, I am a Democrat, but



speaking as a grassroot member of DAV and not as chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee and yet knowing, I think, as much about what Harvey Higley does as far as veterans are concerned as anyone outside of his official family in the VA, I would say that he is a darn good Administrator of Veterans' Affairs. [Applause.]

I know P. D. Jackson. I think a lot of P. D. Jackson. I have a lot of respect for him. If P. D. Jackson knew Harvey Higley the way I know Harvey Higley he wouldn't have had any part of the resolution that came out of Dallas, Tex. Harvey Higley is not his own boss. He has a boss above him and I know the fight that Harvey Higley has put up for disabled veterans to keep hospital beds open and do many, many other things when there was all kinds of pressure coming from another direction to do differently. At the moment there are many hospital beds closed not because Harvey Higley wants them closed but because somebody above him wants them closed. And I am speaking specifically of the Bureau of the Budget which, incidentally, is the biggest problem as far as veterans are concerned in the United States today.

We have every type of thinking in Washington as far as veterans are concerned. We have those who believe that a man that came home and wasn't severely injured in some way is entitled to nothing. We have others at the other extreme who believe that the veterans should have the whole world with a fence around it. The truth of the matter is that there is a certain amount of money that can go into the budget and there is an approximate amount that is going to go for veterans' benefits and a lot must be done in behalf of disabled veterans to see that the money goes where it should go. I opposed a general pension bill last year. I will oppose one this year and I will oppose one every year from now on until I know that the disabled are taken care of in the way they should be taken care of.

Now, our committee in Washington is a very busy committee. If any of you come to Washington at any time I hope that you will take time to come by our committee, come by our office, and see what we are trying to do as far as veterans are concerned. We have passed a number of bills this year. Some of them will become law and some of them won't. We have passed a bill which will raise the salaries of our medical personnel in our hospitals because we know that we are losing doctors and medical personnel all over the country. There are a lot of people that would like to close many of our veteran hospitals. There are a lot of ways of closing the hospitals. If you get rid of all the doctors you won't have a hospital. We know our Veterans' Administration personnel at the moment are underpaid.

Probably I shouldn't tell this either, but Harvey Higley had to oppose that bill, yet I know that in his own mind, his own heart, he agreed with me and thought it would pass. But he was told by people above, who look at much of our program from a strictly monetary standpoint, that he should oppose that bill.

We passed a bill which would give \$47 for each loss of a limb instead of for all of them. That bill is in the Senate Finance Committee and I am not sure that it will get out.

We passed a bill, H. R. 1264, which was a bill which would pay a man immediately upon his going into a tuberculosis hospital. We have had a lot of trouble with people with tuberculosis leaving hos-

pitals before they should, and in the majority of cases it was because of financial troubles at home.

We have passed H. R. 6358 and that has been reported out of the Senate Finance Committee and I think will become law. It is a bill that redefines widow and will help a number of our widows.

We passed a bill that consolidated all the veterans' laws into one law. That bill has taken 2 or 3 years of work to get it ready for the House, and your own DAV people in Washington have played a big part in rewriting all those laws.

We passed H. R. 4602, a housing bill, which has also passed the Senate and which I am sure will become law and should build approximately 40,000 veteran houses in the rural areas and small towns of our country. We made a survey of every county in the United States this year as to the number of veterans there, as to how many had had a chance to get a home, and we found that in the rural areas practically no veteran had had a chance to get a home.

We have continually combed the veteran laws to find where money was going that it was really never intended that it should go in that way. We passed a bill this year which said that a man who goes to prison that his pension will go either to his family or will go back to the Treasury, one or the other.

We had a bill on the floor which said that a man who dies, who is incompetent, that his estate that came from the Government would go back to the Treasury. That bill was recommitted to our committee. We are reworking it and will probably bring it back with some changes.

Our veteran population is so large that any time you do anything that pertains to all the veterans it runs into a terrific amount of money. There are some \$560 million or \$650 million, I have forgotten which, in this guardianship fund that we were taking a look at. That is money for children and money for incompetents. It was our belief that probably \$100 million of that would come back to the Treasury instead of going to an estate or to distant relatives or to someone that it was never intended that the money should go to.

Now, for next year. Our next major piece of legislation, and I think we will pass it next year, is a bill that will equalize all the widow benefits. I am sure all this group here knows that the Spanish-American widows, the World War I and World War II and Korean widows are all different and our first big job, as far as legislation is concerned, is to equalize widow benefits. [Applause.] I have forgotten what that bill would cost the first year but as I remember it runs close to a hundred million dollars.

Something else we have been doing this year and which has been one of the most perplexing problems to me that I have had and that is fund raising in the name of Disabled Veterans. There is all over this country unscrupulous people who raise money and contend they are doing it to get money to help some disabled veteran and maybe a few cents out of a dollar may go to help veterans. In many cases none of it goes. Yet when we try to do something about that we bump into the DAV, we bump into the organizations that are doing a good job of it and if any publicity gets out; if anything is said, then it hurts your fund-raising activities. But this problem has gotten so big that it has reached the point that something must be done. One group, on their own, in the last, oh, I think 14 months, have raised

something over \$2 million and we are not sure that the money has been used in the way that it should be used. We have got many other groups that raise money and don't use the money in the way it should be used, but this next year we are going to try to do something constructive toward stopping groups contending they are representing disabled veterans when actually they are trying to make money for themselves.

I think that probably the finest thing that we can do for any veteran is to provide a good hospital for him when he is sick and can't afford to pay for his hospitalization. We have had a terrific fight the last 10 years over our hospitals. As you know the Hoover Commission came out and recommended closing many of them and, of course, the American Medical Association has fought our hospital program all the way through. I think that at the moment we are in good shape as far as hospitals are concerned except for the Bureau of the Budget. This coming January we will have a bill which we are working on now, or a resolution, that we expect to pass Congress which will tell the Bureau of the Budget to keep their hands off that hospital program. [Applause.] They take an attitude that Congress passed laws which said we will take care of the service connected. If there were beds left over the non-service-connected could be taken care of. Therefore, if they can close—take Buffalo for example, with approximately a thousand beds—if they could close 500 and still have 500 left to take care of the service-connected they contend they are doing what is right and what Congress intended. I don't think that is true and I think we can clarify it for them next year so that they will understand it very clearly.

It is a great pleasure to be here. As I said before we need more understanding between you people and those of us who try to represent you in Washington. As I am sure all of you know a bill passes the House of Representatives and then it must pass the Senate and then if there are any changes there must a conference to work out those changes. Just before I left my office I got a letter from some boy in Tennessee. He said, "I just read in the paper where the bill passed the Senate then it passed the House and it went back to the House. What are you people doing, just passing the buck? Why don't you people get busy and pass the bill?"

Good luck to all of you. If there is ever any way that I can help you or the committee can help you, if there is anything you want to know, anything we can do, just let us know. Thank you very much.

(The convention rose to applaud Congressman Teague.)

National Commander BURKE. I can only say that I regret the Congressman's disability, but I sure am glad he is a life member of this organization.

I am going to ask this convention to do something, not for me, but because it is right. We have committees which take care of our problems, wherever they may be, in Washington or anywhere else, and then we bring those problems to the floor and we debate them and then we pass a resolution which becomes a mandate of a convention. But that is our job.

We also have a duty. We have a duty to our guests. We invite people because of what they represent. The next gentleman is representing the President of the United States as well as his own official capacity. I am going to ask you delegates to think very carefully.

I can't make you do anything you don't want to, but think very carefully of your obligations according to our constitution, that we respect the Federal agencies and try to work as closely with them as we can.

I will ask the sergeant at arms to bring in the head of the Veterans' Administration, the Veterans' Administrator, Mr. Harvey Higley.

(The convention rose to applaud as Mr. Higley was escorted to the platform.)

Mr. HARVEY V. HIGLEY (Administrator, Veterans' Affairs). Thank you, Joe, for your invitation to be here today.

Congressman Teague and distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, and delegates and friends of this convention, I am sorry that the situation seems to have made it necessary for Joe to ask you not to throw any ripe tomatoes.

We have a wonderful personnel in VA. A lot of them are here; you will see many of them. I hope you will talk with them as you usually do. If you don't find in them, each one of them, every one of them, a man who is dedicated to do his job for veterans, I will be thoroughly and totally surprised.

I certainly appreciate the kind words from Congressman Teague. I think commendation from him is about the highest compliment you can have in veterans' work. "Tiger" Teague is tough and don't you mistake that. He will not stand for anything that he thinks is not 100 percent O. K. But he also is an absolute square shooter and when you can deal with a man that handles matters in that fashion, of course you make considerable progress.

I, too, have enjoyed working with Joe this year. As usual, in the fall, after a convention, we have a little luncheon over there at the central office for the commander plus whoever he brings with the heads of the three divisions of the Veterans' Administration. We sit around and talk things over. As so often is the case, the commander is a man that we have not particularly known, so he gets acquainted. He knows who is who and who is running the Veterans' Administration as far as central office is concerned and we think it has paid terrific dividends inasmuch as throughout the year the commander or anybody associated with the organization can call up and firsthand, find out what it is all about. And Joe has been very cooperative in coming directly to me when there was a problem that he didn't understand or else he thought was wrong.

I might say, I don't know how your politics work here, but there will be a new commander, and whoever he may be I would like to ask him now if he will reserve a date at a convenient time and come and break bread with us and we will discuss any and all subjects and try to make next year as good as we possibly can and as good as we have had it with Joe Burke.

I just spent the morning out at the regional office. I shook hands with every person that works for us there, some 225 or 235. We have a mighty fine office here. This afternoon and this noon I go to the hospital where I will also meet the people. I can't tell you how thrilled I am to be part of an organization that has those kind of people working for us and I will vouch for them right down to the last man.

Now I am particularly glad that my part of your convention program is on your opening day. That I've got your attention while you still are fresh and not after a week of committee and other meet-

ings. Because what I have to say today is of paramount importance—to you and to me.

Today I'm going to confine myself to only three subjects, each one of which concerns disabled veterans especially. Sequentially the subjects will be: (1) Ability versus disability; (2) the review of disability claims; and (3) the VA rating schedule.

First, what is ability and what is disability? To me ability is having the skill to accomplish a job regardless of the odds against you. Disability is the lack of knowledge or physical prowess to accomplish that job.

Physical impairment does not connote disability. That is a key statement there. Physical impairment does not connote disability. I guess Mel Maas will be the best man in the world to prove that statement to be a fact. The greatest guy that I have known in a great many years.

In fact, there are some with so-called disabilities who are more capable at certain jobs than are those with all their physical power. Yet there are still employers, even in this age of enlightenment, who will not hire disabled veterans because, in their minds, they see only the physical impairment.

In the disabled veteran they see only an object of charity, an object of pity, a mendicant. That might have been true 20 years ago, but science has routed that fogley notion today. Yet some employers will not hire the handicapped—the amputee, the heart cases, the arrested TB, the blind, and the paraplegic.

To many employers these cases represent a person who cannot work, even though the facts time and again have proved otherwise.

And even among those who would be willing to give a seriously disabled veteran a job, we hear objections like this, rooted in hand-me-down clichés: "But he can't put in a full 40-hour week."

So what, my friends? So what? You measure ability not by the number of hours a man is able to work, but by what he does during those hours. I'm sure there are plenty of veterans—with disabilities preventing them from working a full 40 hours a week—who would prove excellent, conscientious employees, if given jobs on a reduced workweek of 20 hours, or whatever number of hours their physical conditions would permit.

About a year ago, the Veterans' Administration published a study of jobs held by totally blinded veterans. It showed that they were not confined to certain fringe jobs, as some would have you believe. Instead, they were at work everywhere, in the professions, the trades, business, agriculture, industry. What's more, they had their share of success. For them, lack of sight had not meant lack of achievement, or lack of hope.

We have just prepared another study, published only last week, describing the occupations held by paraplegics, veterans paralyzed from the waist down, confined to wheelchairs for the rest of their lives.

I hope that this study will help to counteract the stupid notion that a wheelchair means shut-in living, away from the mainstream of life.

The study proves that it just isn't so. Let me give you a preview: One paralyzed veteran owns the only hospital in this town. Aside from keeping his institution running, and conducting a polio clinic on the side, he also is chief surgeon, performing operations from his wheelchair.

Another is a playground director, organizing play activities that have kept hundreds of young folks off the city streets.

Still another is a minister who preaches sermons from his wheelchair.

The paralysis of still another has affected his voice as well as his limbs, so that he can speak only in a whisper. Yet he trained to be a lawyer, and argues cases in a courtroom kept so quiet that his whisper can be heard.

The veterans have shown plenty of business acumen, too. One of them invested in oil wells and struck it rich. With his profits he opened a skating rink, golf driving range, ice cream store, and automobile accessory business. And he manages all four from his wheelchair.

These two studies, plus the work experience of countless other disabled veterans, proves beyond any doubt how deadly outmoded ideas can be. Such nonsense not only can perpetuate, but it can magnify injustice. In the case of disabled veterans, the injustice too often has been the deprivation of one of America's basic rights, the right of opportunity.

So much for No. 1.

Misunderstanding is not confined to employers by any means. There has been considerable misunderstanding as to why the present review of compensation claims is being conducted. I want to outline briefly the sequence of events which led to this review and to the principles involved.

Early in 1954, I appeared before a subcommittee of the House of Representatives in connection with the fiscal 1955 VA budget. During that hearing, one committee member read a recent report of the General Accounting Office.

I presume you know the Accounting Office is to check any and all expenditures made by the Government. They have the last word on any expenditure and they report directly to Congress. The General Accounting Office had reviewed 1,000 compensation cases and had found more than 200 errors, according to their report, most of which had been made during the hectic period shortly after World War II when inexperienced, overworked staffs had to make decisions without sufficient evidence. Two hundred out of a thousand. True, that would be 20 percent.

We carefully reviewed this report and concluded that an immediate sampling of cases should be made to see if these errors had been made in other regional offices.

The results were startling. Errors, varied in nature, were found. Numerous cases had been established as static with no reexamination scheduled when the very nature of the disability would indicate that it should improve through the normal course of time.

In some cases larger benefits should have been awarded. In others, the grant of benefit was clearly and unmistakably in error.

Two questions arose in my mind. "Is it right to deny increased payments to a veteran who is entitled to it?" Obviously the answer is no.

"Is it just to continue payments to those not entitled?" Again, the obvious answer is no.

It was clear to me that a thorough review was necessary and unavoidable but the next question was, "Who will conduct this review?" The General Accounting Office.

I didn't think they should. I believed our VA-trained adjudication employees were better equipped for the job and had a fuller understanding of the philosophy of benefits and claims. So, in December 1954, I directed the regional offices to review all claims of veterans under 55 years of age and where entitlement was based on World War II or peacetime service.

And let me digress for a moment to say that nearly 3 years later, on May 28, 1957, at a meeting of the major veteran organizations at which DAV was represented, it was concluded that a comprehensive review made by experienced VA personnel, was preferable to a spot checking of cases by less qualified persons from some other agency.

Printed instructions were sent to our field offices reemphasizing long-existing policies in the adjudication of claims. There has been no change in policy with respect to entitlement to service connection under this review. These instructions were restated in December 1954, October 1955, and April 1956, and only last week I reiterated this to all adjudicators.

The basic principles emphasized in these instructions were:

1. The benefit of a reasonable doubt is invariable to be resolved in favor of the veteran.

2. No benefits will be taken from any veteran unless it is shown that the grant of such benefit was clearly and unmistakably in error.

3. All adjudication actions must reflect the generous intent of the law and be effected with human understanding.

I want to make it very clear that these principles have been, are now, and will continue to be applied in this review.

What do we hope to accomplish?

We want to make certain that veterans are receiving the full benefits to which they are entitled but, on the other hand, we expect to discontinue benefits to those who clearly and unmistakably are not entitled to them.

What have been the results to date?

The errors found have not been as extensive as originally feared. Nearly 93 percent of the cases reviewed needed no change whatever. They were O. K.

In many cases the reexaminations have resulted in increased monthly payments and many of the errors found have resulted not only in increased current payments but also in rather large retroactive adjustments.

Of course, some errors were found which resulted in the reduction or even discontinuance of payments and, human nature being what it is, I suppose it is only natural and expected that emphasis would be placed on these cases. But if these cases were clearly in error, I can't see where there is any other choice.

What is the long-range result of this review? I firmly believe that it will dignify the entire claims program. We must always remember that regardless of widespread recognition of our Nation's obligation to disabled veterans, there have been, and always will be, critics of this program.

The correction of errors will definitely solidify the program and will eliminate very impressive ammunition for these self-appointed critics.

And there, my friends, you have the essence of the claims-review program.

I want to digress from this just a minute. There is always a field, of course, where opinion is divided and very often it is in a field where maybe it is a little difficult to make a decision. Of all the VA people out at this office this morning I talked to every member of the board out there, have 4 boards, talked to every 1 of them—quite a discussion along different lines. You know it seems to me that every man I know in VA would like to find a claim in favor of a veteran if he can. Now I know that there are those who feel otherwise. They seem to get the idea that we are trying to deny something. That is not true. I don't suppose we will ever arrive at the time that the man is thinking like us because when you get into the world of opinion, naturally there is bound to be differences.

Let me give you a typical example of the difference of opinion where it almost takes a Solomon to decide a thing. A Congressman brought in a case the other day that had been through the Board of Veterans' Appeals and it came to me, I have the last shot and by the time they get to me they are usually good.

Now in this particular case, the man had a spinal puncture anesthesia in the service for an appendectomy. That was in 1945, I believe, and about 1950, about 5 years later, he developed something that has a very long name, I am not sure what it is, but what it means is that the covering of the spinal column is injured in such a way and there is a deterioration that sets in which eventually becomes transverse myelitis and that is where you practically have developed into paralysis from the waist down. It is most serious.

Well, this was 5 years later when this attack came on that started and now the claim was that that started from the spinal puncture in service.

Well, we had all the best doctors we have go over that, and our neurologists and they came up with the decision that no, it couldn't possibly have resulted from a spinal puncture because that would necessarily have developed much sooner, that 5 years was totally out of all reason. But, in looking over this claim, there was a letter in there from, I don't know the gentleman's name, but he was one of the anesthesiologists—you are good if you can say that—at Mayo's. Well now Mayo's have good men as you know and there was another doctor who was very good. Now they gave it as their opinion, not having anything except the bare facts to go on, they gave as their opinion that this 5-year span did not make it impossible and then they went through the medical history. And there isn't enough of this, to be sure, but most of the medical history would indicate 5 years would be too long a time.

Now that is the way this thing arrived, that is the main element. My job is to decide it. Not being a medical man I must rely on medical men for testimony. I tell you what we did. This seems to be satisfactory to everybody concerned. I suggested to this Congressman we are going to have between us, we are going to pick out at least three of the best specialists we can find in the country and probably neurologists who have nothing whatever to do with VA. They don't have



connection with us, nor do they have with either this Congressman anybody else, and we are going to turn the whole file right over to me. They will have in their possession everything there is.

Some people might complain, it might cost us a thousand dollars more to do this. But we feel that if that outside group who are specialists come in and say, "We think it well could have happened,"

benefit of the doubt belongs to the veteran, it is O. K. with me. Frankly, I'll be kind of tickled. But on the other hand, if they corroborate the other findings I will consider that that must be the best answer to come up. I just wanted to tell you that. I don't want you to get the idea that this is slapdash. I think we do try our best to give our best thought to these claims.

Now let's move on to the third subject, the review of the rating schedule. Ever since I assumed the duties of Administrator, more than 4 years ago, I have been told by individuals within and outside VA that many codes in this rating schedule did not reflect current medical rating thinking.

Now, as you know, I am charged by law with making changes in the schedule from time to time as experience indicates. Having conceded myself that some revision was needed, I decided to go about it in as orderly a fashion as possible.

First of all, the Department of Veterans' Benefits freed the rating schedule board of any duties not directly associated with the schedule. So, the Department of Medicine and Surgery has assigned professional personnel to this full-time task. And Bill Driver, who is also here, tells me this morning that Nevill Joyner, who is on this full-time work, working right along on that, has not only been on an adjudication board but he has been on a rating schedule board for about 10 or 11 years. So it means that these are men that know what it is about. This means that we have extremely well-qualified professional men devoting full time to this document which represents the very heart of the disability rating program for veterans.

We began on the premise that the schedule would be changed body system by body system. There are 10 systems and within those 10 systems you have individual codes. And that an entire system would be published with any needed revision as a unit.

Later, when it became possible to change the form of the schedule from a bound book to a looseleaf edition, a step which I understand was met with universal approval by schedule users, we abandoned the idea of bringing out a whole body system at a time; instead, we are now making individual code amendments.

After each code change can be coordinated and justified, they will be issued individually. The looseleaf edition makes this method much more satisfactory.

I decided that proposed changes would be furnished you and the other veterans' organizations, for comment, because I was convinced that the long experience of service officers in the rating field would add immeasurably to the validity of the schedule. I still feel that way.

The comments received so far will be extremely useful and I hope you will continue to give us the benefit of your experience. I assure you I will approve no change unless I am absolutely convinced of its merits.



changed. So you see I hope I give you the picture that being concerned, you people are working with the schedule, you know all about it, nothing is going to be done that you don't know all about and I don't see why if we can improve the schedule after being in operation about 12 years it is high time to be doing it.

Gentlemen and ladies, that just about concludes the three points that I had in mind. Thank you for your courtesy. Glad to be here. (The convention rose to applaud Mr. Higley.)

National Commander BURKE. I thank the convention. I want you all to understand Mr. Higley has spoken and spoken very well about his particular situation. This is still a democratic convention. We will take our resolutions about the rehabilitation. We will take the names of the veterans people, and they are going to sit down with the rehabilitation committee and answer their questions. Our own people, Captain Hogan and the service officers, will be there. And out of that will come the resolutions. I and nobody else cares what comes out of that; we are going to do it in a democratic fashion, those of you who have something to say about it, and we are going to give fair and equal representation to the Veterans' Administration. And out of it we are going to pass a resolution.

Now, I have been asked, I had a long-distance call before, "What is the matter with the national adjutant? Are you mad at him; is he mad at you? It is the first convention in 33 years he didn't open up."

We had a very capable man open it up; Jack Feighner knew the whole flag program inside out. Also, he is not down there because he is mad, situation being, can't talk. He is down there because he is heartbroken. The Cincinnati Reds are in fifth place. They lost a game yesterday. I need him; I don't know what comes next. The national commander is now ordering the national adjutant back on the platform.

Now we want you to stay here for a while. Because of the fact that Mr. Teague and Mr. Higley are busy we put them on first because our program is running late. I have these national officers of the Ladies' Auxiliary, who have worked very hard, to be presented to you for introductions. I have the men that have assisted me so much during the year. And if you will bear with us a few more minutes we will do that and see what else we can do this morning before we adjourn until this afternoon. So remain seated please, at this time.

At this time I would like for a presentation to present to you the second junior vice commander, Buster Davidson.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. Thanks, Joe, for the promotion.

My comrades, you know different companies make researches. Tissue people make researches. There is a small bottling company that started in Atlanta that made a research, and after 3 years of work they found out that their No. 1 user is a member of our organization.

At this time I would like to make a small presentation. I'd like to ask the adjutant, Mr. Vivian Corbly, to come up here with me. Mr. Corbly, a couple of small-business men in Atlanta have a little bottling works down there and they are the people that made this research and they found out that although you drink them like they don't want you to drink them, you drink them hot, they would like

to give you a little token of their appreciation for the profit you have given them. At this time I'd like to present you this very heavy Coca Cola cooler so we can keep Howard Watts and your other friends from running down the hall and getting you a Coca Cola every 5 minutes. [Applause.]

National Adjutant CORBLY. Thank you very much.

National Commander BURKE. For the edification of the third junior vice commander, Mr. Corbly drinks Coca Cola. He gets in New Jersey, he drinks bourbon.

Now I have a pleasant duty. I am a bachelor. Bonnie Maile accuses me of advertising the fact. Perhaps I do, but I am very fond of women just the same. And I have got a bevy of beauties up here this morning. I don't want their husbands to know that I am on speaking acquaintance with them as much as I am, so, rather than introducing them by calling them, "Hi, sweetie," I am going to have the national commander, that very gracious lady, Mrs. Helen Ishmael of the Ladies' Auxiliary, to introduce her group.

(The convention rose to applaud Mrs. Ishmael.)

National Commander Mrs. HELEN ISHMAEL (Ladies' Auxiliary). Commander Joe, national officers, delegates, and all my many friends of the DAV, my most sincere warm greeting to you at this convention, I hope you are all going to enjoy it. We hope our women will try to attend all the meetings. Our program this year has been increased. Among the group of women, I have been blessed with a very fine group of national officers and at this time I should like to present them to you.

My national senior vice commander is a girl from California. I am sure many, many of you know her, Vi Hoffmann. [Applause.]

My first national junior vice commander is from Minnesota, Jeanette Peterson. [Applause.]

My second national junior vice commander is from the State of Texas and she happened to serve as the convention chairman last year, but is not able to be with us here. I wish she were; Peggy Cole.

Our third junior vice commander is from Alabama; Estelle Morrow. [Applause.]

And from Massachusetts, my fourth national junior vice commander, Eileen Reilly. [Applause.]

My national chaplain is from Iowa; Ann Day. [Applause.]

National judge advocate, Adelaide Irwin, from California. [Applause.]

All of you know the national adjutant, Ann Weber, from Colorado, and love her, I am sure. She had to leave on account of some business she had to take care of.

And the assistant national adjutant is Olive Plus from Colorado. [Applause.]

Thank you very much. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. Thank you, Helen.

There has been a little fellow running around the last couple of days giving out cigarettes. I think he is one of the finest public relations men I have ever met. Not because he is a life member of our organization in Astoria Chapter, but because he does represent his concern to the utmost of his ability. He can do a lot and has done a lot for disabled veterans. He is on television constantly for Liggett & Myers, Chesterfield, you have seen him with Russ Hodges, those of

you who live in the East. He is a good guy and he has come to this convention with a lot of loot and he has given it out indiscriminately. He hasn't given me anything. I have been here 2 days; he has given it to everybody else. He is my friend. He is one of the few Greeks I know that didn't change his name. I am going to have trouble, but I think I can get it out. My good friend a friend of this convention Mr. Peter J. Petropoulos. [Applause.]

Delegates, after the next speaker and a few introductions, we want you to stay because we want to put the national adjutant back to work. As you know we are going to have our committees this morning and our district meeting. Don't anybody leave just yet.

I have the pleasure of introducing one final speaker this morning. He knows who it is because I am looking at him. I have seen dedicated men in their profession. I have seen people who have been friendly to the DAV many times, we have had them here this morning, we will have them here this afternoon, and every day. But when you want something, he wants something, he calls us, tell us what he needs and because his organization and himself have been so good to the disabled veterans I don't know that we have refused them anything. At the same time when we want anything we know who to call.

He happens to be from Buffalo, it has been his home many years before he went down to Washington. He is one of the finer people in the field and I want to call to this platform for the purpose of talking to this convention, my good friend, been here for many years, Roy Johnson of the Red Cross. [Applause.]

Mr. Roy E. JOHNSON (American Red Cross). Thank you, Joe.

I think most of you know that usually I try to take a spot in the program when it is not crowded. For one thing they can call on me at any time to be a filler, and for another I know about how much you can absorb. And so today I thought that I was going to stay in the background. You had two excellent keynote speakers, you learned a lot.

I think you will remember perhaps at Miami when I corrected our national adjutant after he introduced me as a life member and I said that I had always maintained an annual membership because that gave me the right, if the DAV conducted itself in such a way that I didn't feel that I wanted to continue to be associated with it, to declare myself and disassociate myself. And I said at Miami that I had heard all the uproar in New York State and was sorry for it because I was a New York Stater, but I was very proud to say I was renewing my membership to the DAV. And you gave me again this morning the opportunity to say that I am renewing my annual membership in the DAV by your conduct in spite of some of the threats that had been heard. You conducted yourself as real DAV'ers.

I want to add just a word to what Congressman Teague said. I think most of you know I have worked with the Veterans' Administration always on the other side of the table, always on your side of the table, down through these years for some 30-odd, and I have found them as Harvey Higley told you this morning he has found them, trying to do an honest job.

I have talked to your service officers as they went through the training school of the American University in Washington. I talked to every class. I started out talking once to each class and after

about 3 of them they asked that I come for 2 sessions with them and that was because I talked their talk, and they knew it, about doing claims work. And I told them that one thing I wanted to impress on them most that their job as service officers was to see that the disabled veteran got what he was entitled to. Not perhaps what he wanted but what he was entitled to. And so long as we stuck to that and we tried to see that the disabled veterans always got everything they were entitled to and we did not seek constantly to get them more than they were entitled to, the disabled veteran would get rights and justice.

I am proud to say your DAV service officers have worked that way and I know they are going to continue to because through their experience they have found that it is right. And so you, as an organization, with your resolutions, must always remember that you are seeking what is right.

Now you have got to do more than that. It is fine to pass a resolution in this convention and send it down to Congress to let them know where you stand, but Congress has to reflect the opinion of the American people. That is what they are there for. And so you have got to interpret your resolutions and your needs and your desires to all of the American people and not just to Congressmen, and I say that is where all of the veterans' organizations have failed to do a complete job. You have got to go out and explain to the people of this country a thing that they still don't understand and that is the compensation for disabled veterans is exactly the same as compensation for a disabled workman that you call workmen's compensation, except I think the disabled veteran is one hell of a lot more entitled to it.

The American people just have not been given the true picture of compensation for service-connected disabilities and we contribute to that constantly by talking of pensions instead of compensation and I say we must always make that point very clear. Compensation, whether it be workmen's compensation or servicemen's disability compensation, is something that has been earned. It is not a gift. It is not a gratuity. It is not a pension.

Now I didn't intend to spout off like this, Joe, but you asked for it. You brought me into a crowded program and I felt that I should speak my piece and I think you all know that I will continue to speak my piece whenever you give me an opportunity.

I hope that here in my hometown you will have one of the best conventions ever and one of the most profitable from the standpoint of the disabled American veteran.

Thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE Roy, you are always glad to speak your piece and we appreciate it. But that reminds me of something. Now down in Washington there is something going on that has us worried and the guy who minds the store for us isn't there. He is here. I want him to go back to Washington. I wanted him to stay this afternoon if he could, but he is worried about the store. But at this time, so he can get back and protect our interests, I want this convention to excuse Congressman Teague of Texas so he can get back there and mind the store.

(The audience rose to applaud Congressman Teague as he left the convention.)

National Commander BURKE. Will the Washington delegation bring forward the DAV Mother of the Year, please?

(The convention rose to applaud as the DAV Mother of the Year was escorted to the platform.)

National Commander BURKE. The Chair is going to yield to one of the—what he is always called throughout the country—the most dedicated group of people ever to serve an organization. The Chair is going to yield the privilege, which he doesn't like to do too much, to the representative from Seattle, Wash., one of those national service officers of ours, Perry Dye.

National Service Officer DYE. Thank you, Commander Burke. Distinguished guests, my comrades, and ladies of this 36th annual convention, it is my distinct pleasure to bring to you this National Mother of the Year, this grand lady from our State of Washington, who, incidentally, is also a member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. She is Adeline Ekenstedt, mother of 12 children, 8 of them living. She lost her husband some 20-odd years ago and raised this wonderful family and today, in her own right, and in her great heart and humbleness, she, to us who know her best and who have watched her work and the inspiration that she has had in our Pacific Northwest country, this little woman who is the very soul of humbleness and sweetness, has administrative and executive ability beyond any thinking possibility. She is able to muster help, finances, and material and puts on great affairs for as many as 1,000 to 1,500 veterans in our hospitals throughout the country and her efforts are continuous. She has gone into the field of little children's baskets and so on. It is my great pleasure to introduce to you this wonderful lady, "Mom" Ekenstedt of the Department of Washington, your national choice as Mother of the Year.

Mrs. ADELINE EKENSTEDT (mother of the year). Commander Burke, I am very, very happy to be here. I have sure had a good time. May I say something about my parties at the State institutions?

I put on these parties, one a month, at the several veterans' hospitals in our State, and in most instances we run a party for from 300 to as great as 1,500 participants.

Myself and those working with me have been fortunate in getting an abundance of help, both financial and material, from the radio stations, television stations, and many fraternal and civic organizations. They always like to help and are always willing to help, and to know and see where it goes I take a lot of people each time with me to the hospital, different people, and you always get the help the next time. The patient shares in the joy.

We received at one time a gift from a bakery concern of 1,500 cupcakes, and 1,500 slices of ice cream from another manufacturer. We served 1,500 at that particular time, veteran and nonveteran. We served in the hall; we served at three tuberculosis wards. I feel more sorry for them because they are isolated.

At our Christmas party, we had a present for every patient, a pair of socks, a shirt, some handkerchiefs, some writing material, a book, or something that became his personal property.

We have entertainment each time. I go once a month and have a party. I had one last Saturday, so I have to go back and have it at the other hospital when I get home. I love to go to the hospital and

give to them a little break. At that State hospital where I went so many years nobody went there and gave a party before. It seems that quite a few have started there on a smaller scale, which I am very happy about.

I would like to visit your hospital here in Buffalo as I just love to go to those places. I have kind of a soft spot in my heart for them. We are lucky, all of us, not to have to be in a hospital, so let us pitch in together on that wonderful work for all the hospitals and for all the veterans, which I am very thankful for. These are truly the forgotten men and women who are in our nerve and mental hospitals.

I am very grateful to the Disabled American Veterans for selecting me as your mother of the year, and I am sure it will not only inspire me to further effort, but will encourage many other fine women of the country to use some of their time and abilities in this direction. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. We will just express our thanks to the DAV mother of the year and Perry Dye for presenting her.

Now, there is something I have to do, because I want to do it. I have this year, in my opinion, one of the best staffs a national commander ever had. I am not going to take too much time extolling their virtues, because they are apparent to anybody who knows of their sincere interest in the DAV, but for bows, and because they deserve it, I'd like to introduce at this time, Senior Vice Commander Paul Frederick.

Our first junior vice commander, Ted Hietala, Boise, Idaho.

The next guy has been around a long time. You all know him, second junior vice commander, Harry Wentworth, of California.

That sweet-voiced siren of the South, a man I love to hear talk but can't imitate well enough to try, the third junior vice commander, "Buster" Davidson.

The only Republican judge I would ever dare appear before—I am like the national adjutant, we are Democrats—but the only one I would ever take a chance because he is a good disabled veteran. If you get in his court no disabled veteran is ever fined, so we would be safe. I'd like to present to you Judge David B. Williams, comrade of Massachusetts.

The next man, I found out for the first time, was prejudiced. It took me a long time to find it out. I don't believe it yet but finally after all these years he is not permitted to sit on a case in our national executive committee because somebody thinks he might be prejudiced. I can't believe it but I'd like you all to take a good look at, again, as you have for so many years, that very fine estimable dispenser of jurisprudence, Sylvester Hoffmann.

Next is a more serious note, the disabled veterans have always believed in the creed that all good Americans do, if you haven't got God on your side you are never going to get anywhere. And the man who talks to God for us, Rev. Joseph C. Pickett, our National Chaplain.

I don't know if our friend is here this morning, I hope he is, I haven't been able to see him too much but I succeeded him in office. The only thing I will ever say about that, and he loves to hear me say it, is contrary to the national adjutant's opinion, it only takes an ex-Army sergeant to succeed a Marine Corps major general.

And if he is not here I am going to feel badly, but I still want you all to know, those of you who haven't seen him, that the past national



commander, Melvin J. Maas, of Chevy Chase, Md., is with us at this convention.

I don't know how many are here but from the first district the national executive committeeman, Armand Plaisance.

Taking the place of Fred Rundbaken, a good friend in this convention and a good friend of mine for years, from the second district acting as national executive committeeman, Jimmy Snyder.

Another substitute, in the place of George Beck, from Pittsburgh, Mr. Constantine, third district.

The next, the man who tried to take the convention to Hawaii 4 years ago, and the national adjutant has been "chewing" certain people, me, ever since for not letting it get there, the chairman of that particular convention in Milwaukee of the time and place committee, now a fourth district national executive committeeman, Bob Dove.

From Concord, N. C., and the fifth district, Gene Caldwell.

The next, from the sixth district and though many of you have heard it, before this convention is over I am going to tell the story how I was introduced in Mississippi one night by this same gentleman. From the sixth district the national executive committeeman, J. C. Broome.

From the seventh district, from Fort Wayne, Ind., Harley Ward.

From the eighth district, La Crosse, Wis., Matt Werel.

From Omaha, Nebr., the ninth district, Paul Harmon.

From Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Clarence Quigley.

From the eleventh district, from Salt Lake City, Utah, the reason I added the Utah is because I am afraid of this fellow. He is the one guy tells me every time he sees me, "If they don't get a service officer in Utah." They have gotten one finally, Tracy Astle.

From the twelfth district from Long Beach, their belief of paradise is not confined to all California, I have been in his home town, very beautiful, Elmer Allmeroth, from the twelfth district from Long Beach, Calif.

From Idaho Falls, Idaho, from the 13th district, Russell Rock.

From Harrison, Ark., in the 14th district, Charley Steese.

The man who claims he can always see you as well as hear you, and I sometimes think he has an instinct which belongs to the blind as he does know who is around at all times although we know he can't see a thing, our good friend from the Blind Veterans, the National Executive Committeeman, Paddy Driscoll.

Oh yes; and I take the greatest of pleasure in introducing that seeing-eye dog that takes care of Paddy, Melody.

The national director of claims who will be heard from in this convention, and how, The Honorable Cicero Hogan.

The national director of employment who stood like a rock in that Navy situation and torpedoed certain people's ships for me, John Burris.

The fine legislative representative of ours who has worked very hard this year and we hope to see the fruits of his efforts if that bill gets signed, Omer W. Clark, our national director of legislation.

And his assistant, one of the finest leg men I have ever had the pleasure to meet. He moves so fast and so often you can't keep up with him. He does a good job up on that hill, Elmer Freudenberger.

The chairman of the finance committee who will be heard from during this convention, Francis R. Buono, Bayside, N. Y.

The next pulled the dirtiest trick that was ever pulled on a national convention, something I will never forget nor will they ever let me forget either, but still and all he is a friend of mine and a friend of yours, he works very hard, but he will never get me back to Bay City. I might go to Detroit to see him, Bonnie Maile of Detroit, Mich.

My protection if I get in any fights, see him, he will fight you for me anyway, he is a good protector because when he stands up you take a look at the size of him, you will know why nobody ever fools with me, as past national commander, a good advisor, a good friend, Floyd Ming of Bakersfield, Calif.

And a hardworking member of that finance committee and responsible for the very lovely time that Captain Hogan and I had in St. Louis, a hard worker, good railroader, Bob McFarland of St. Louis, Mo.

Another wing like me, he is going to get in trouble if he doesn't keep it in his pocket, but a wonderful boy and a past national commander in his own right, Howard Watts.

Another past national commander, in the back of the room hiding, but he will be heard from too, during this convention, from Minnesota, John Golob.

Alongside of him, a guy who doesn't say much but when he says something it is listened to and appreciated, I know, I have worked with him. National service officer, a past national commander, "Monnie" Monnahan, from Minneapolis.

A man who is responsible for a great deal of help to your national commander; he went out of his way this year to give me some aid and assistance, he is frankly responsible for selling us the idea of having the commander's column, although it has been a lot of extra work for me and my writers, the honorable executive secretary of the foundation, past national commander, from Minnesota, living in Washington, Millard Rice.

I don't know where he is, the only man who ever killed a national commander and the national commander is still living. I still hear his words echoing through that hall in Dallas when I was introduced when he got up there and was carried away with his oratory and I was listening to him wondering where he learned to say such nice things about me, but he did glowingly praise me that night, "And there," he said, "there he is, our national commander, mortally wounded." Lew Murphy.

And now a man who is sick, I know we all wish for him a speedy recovery, a man who has been past national commander, from this section, worked many years but now working as an assistant manager in Brooklyn, N. Y., Milt Cohn of Buffalo, N. Y.

My own chief of staff of my own State, a man who has helped me along the road to what I consider the finest job a disabled veteran could ever have, Maurice Sweeney, of Cedar Grove, N. J.

The reason why he is my chief of staff is that 30 years he has worked in a mental institution, and everybody figured he could take care of a nut like me.

And now I'd like to present, because I don't know if there are any other national commanders here, but he knows them all better than I do, my very good friend, a man who has dedicated his life to the disabled veterans which I will have more to say about, but in order

to get the business over as quickly as possible because he has already whispered, "You are talking too much," I want to present to this convention for the first time this morning the man whose heart is broken over the Cincinnati Redlegs but is going to try to recover his voice, Vivian D. Corbly, the national adjutant of the DAV.

The man who has my left ear, Corbly, tells me I forgot something. From Detroit, Mich., Joe Tabor of Detroit, Mich. Did I forget anybody else?

I didn't know this gentleman's name or I would have said something much earlier, they tell me he is on the platform now, been a terrific liaison man in the Department of Defense for the DAV for many years, maybe we shouldn't say those things publicly but he has been a good friend of this organization, and proven it on many occasions, United States Navy, Lieutenant Watkins.

Lt. Comdr. JAMES WATKINS. I noticed he called me Lieutenant Watkins. When I left here 3 years ago I was Lieutenant Watkins. Since that time I have been promoted and I have just returned from a tour in the Mediterranean back to the Department of Defense. It is a pleasure to be here again and I'd like to extend greetings to you from the Department of Defense. Thank you.

National Commander BURKE. I forgot something else. I don't like to let them go because they are going to go over and run the DAV but I have to excuse the Ladies Auxiliary because they have business of their own. Thank you, Helen, for coming over.

I think he is ready to talk now, finally. The national adjutant.

National Adjutant VIVIAN D. CORBLY. While our ladies are leaving, will all the rest of the delegates, the male contingent, move forward and take their seats, get up close so we can all be together. Let's get settled and get out of here for lunch.

I want to make an observation which I trust will be stated in a manner that will encourage all of you to lend the best of your efforts during the remaining hours and the remaining days of this convention to the machinery, to the program, of this, our 36th annual gathering. It has been my privilege for 32 years to appear before a convention of this organization as its secretary. During that time I have been privileged to serve with 33 outstanding leaders in the field of veterandom, outstanding citizens, outstanding individuals, good pals and good friends, the national commanders of the DAV.

Each and everyone of them have left the imprint of their efforts and their accomplishments upon the fine history of this organization. However, none of them have excelled the efforts and put more into the job than the man under whom you are serving at the present time, Joe Burke.

He has given everything that he has to the job that you elevated him to last year. In some of his efforts he has not been entirely successful. In all projects failure goes along with success. But in the Navy episode as an individual he defeated the Navy of the United States. Only the Marine Corps had been able to do that before. And in my humble judgment from the limited position that I have in the field of legislation I believe that Joe Burke, as an individual had more to do than any other person with the ultimate passage of H. R. 52. He is the first national commander in my knowledge who was ever able to secure a promise of an affirmative nature from Senator

Byrd, of Virginia, with respect to paying compensation to disabled veterans.

Let us add to the applause and the appreciation that we have for Joe, our every effort in this convention to let him finish his year in the next 4½ days with a greater and greater pride in you, the people he is associated with and the people for whom he has labored.

Come to our meetings on schedule, stay in the hall and be a party to all of our deliberations. Those of you who are fortunate or unfortunate enough to get committee assignments, attend your meetings regularly, study the proposals that come before you, give them intelligent considered consideration. In an outfit like this we always must have divergency of viewpoint. In the disabled veteran field I have found that it is utterly impossible, in any gathering of more than five disabled veterans, to get a complete meeting of minds until after the second quart has been disposed of.

We are a democratic organization, a cross section of the Nation that we live in, the Nation we love, the Nation that is the spark of freedom in the world. We enjoy the privileges of freedom of thought and freedom of talk and under the rules which you people have adopted down through the past some 30 years, we operate the machinery of this convention. If Joe is in the chair, or anyone else he designates to take over the chair, please remember he is merely the medium of conducting your affairs. Joe and all of those he puts up here will be fair men. They will give you every opportunity to express your viewpoints in so long as you conform to your own rules. If you don't believe in your rules you are privileged at a later meeting to change those rules, but if you don't change the rules, please stick to the rules.

All of us up here on the topside are here merely to help you, not to direct you, not to stampede you.

In reverse, however, we are not up here to be stampeded. I don't know how many resolutions you have but they go into the hundreds and they cover a multitude of subjects. We are still operating under our Federal charter and as a result of action taken by successive national executive committees, we are not permitted to give consideration without unanimous consent to any proposals of any type that are not specifically pertinent to the welfare of disabled veterans and their dependents other than, of course, Americanism and defense. It is the job of the committee to weed out the extraneous material that comes before you. Under our rules, through a coordinating committee, the resolutions that are presented to us are distributed to the 15 committees of the convention, the committees of the convention give consideration to those resolutions. They adopt, by majority action, those that they feel should be sent to the national convention for confirmation. In instances where a convention committee does not see fit to report verbally to the floor, after the committee has been discharged, the proponent of any resolution which was not recommended by the committee may be brought to the floor for discussion and action by the proponent of the resolution. The committees are used merely to expedite the proceedings of a convention.

I would like to see this Buffalo convention set a record. I would like to see you get into the first activity of the organization insofar as the convention is concerned with such a spirit that before 6 o'clock

tonight you will have returned to the adjutant or members of his staff, complete reports with respect to your selections for the 15 committees.

Now under our setup each district, as soon as I am through spouting off, will meet in caucus. The meeting of each caucus will be presided over by the national executive committeeman that you elected last year. He will preside while you elect a permanent chairman of the caucus. Then you will elect a permanent secretary of your caucus. Then you will select or elect the members that your district desires to serve you on the 15 convention committees.

You have to give all States in your district an opportunity to be represented on the convention committees. One chapter cannot form all the representation unless it is your desire that the leadership of that chapter represents you.

If you come to a discussion which requires a vote to get a decision, you vote in your caucus in exactly the same manner as you vote on the floor of the convention. The chapters represented give you the same number of votes that you will find on the record of membership and the record of votes you will find in your convention package.

Once the committees are formed we will post the personnel of those committees and designate a chairman for the committees. We will designate a place and time for meeting. We will assign advisers to each committee. In those committees you will then be privileged to elect your own chairman and your own secretary. The resolutions for your consideration will be returned to you by the coordination committee. When you have taken partial or complete action on the resolutions you will return your action and the resolutions to the coordinating committee. Then the coordinating committee will clear with the platform as to the schedule of your report and through the coordinating committee you will be advised when you should come to the platform to present either your partial or your final report.

A committee is privileged to call before it anybody that they desire to testify or comment upon the subject matter before it. All of the staff of the Washington office and all of the staff of the national headquarters are admonished to give their time if you wish to call them before you for questioning.

A committee may originate resolutions. If you find you have 15 resolutions dealing with the same subjects and not 1 of the 15 meets your entire approval, you can consolidate all of the 15 in 1 resolution and report it as your action on the entire 15. You can originate a resolution that is not even presented to you but you cannot accept a resolution from anybody and give consideration to it unless it comes through the coordination committee.

We schedule so as to have a permanent file record of all resolutions that come before us, a file that is maintained in both the Washington and national headquarters office and checked in the archives which we keep in those two places.

If there are no questions with reference to this particular meeting we will proceed to assign places in this hall and the adjacent territory. (Assignment of meeting places.)

National Adjutant CORBYL. With permission of the Chair, we will recess until 2:30 this afternoon. It is now 1:05.

(Whereupon, at 1:05 p. m., the session was recessed until 2:30 p. m. of the same day.)

## AFTERNOON SESSION

Monday, August 19, 1957

The first business session of the 36th Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans convened in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., Monday afternoon, August 19, 1957. National Commander Burke called the meeting to order at 2:30 p. m.

National Commander BURKE. The convention will be in order.

At this time I think we need to be led in guidance by the chaplain.

National Chaplain PICKETT. O Lord, as Thou hast promised to come and abide with those who ask, we ask in humility, through faith, knowing that Thou wilt do more than we can ask or even think, according to Thy power that worketh in us. Again we ask Thy guidance and strength in the proceedings of this day and through those that follow, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

National Commander BURKE. I am going to turn the chair over, I haven't eaten yet, and I am going to get a sandwich, and I am looking for someone to turn the chair over to.

National Adjutant CORBYL. Comrade Commander, I think that is a pretty weak alibi. He has had 2 hours to get a sandwich. This morning he decided to take a poke at me because my beloved Reds are going downhill. I want to tell him right now, and tell you, that the Reds are still in Cincinnati even though they are in fourth place. We just got the word that the executive committee of the ownership of the New York Giants have signed a contract and they are leaving New York City for the west coast. That's what's the matter with Joe.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair is at a loss for words.

I'd like to present to you one of our staff who will introduce our good friend, Captain Hogan, for the purpose of the report and introductions. Ted, will you take the chair, please?

First Junior Vice Commander ARVO T. HIETALA. At this time I'd like to introduce and ask "Cap" Hogan to come to the microphone for his talk.

Capt. CICERO F. HOGAN. Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to have the privilege of introducing the officials of Mr. Higley's staff who are in attendance at this convention and who will attend all of the service officers' conferences held each morning. These are the gentlemen who do the work in the Veterans' Administration.

Mr. R. H. Stone, Chief Benefits Director.

Mr. J. W. Stancil, new Chairman, Board of Veterans Appeals.

Dr. J. H. Smith, Deputy Director for Planning.

James A. Parke, Chief, Voluntary Service Division.

W. J. Driver, Director of Compensation and Pension Service.

Mr. Don Knapp, Assistant Director of Legislation, Office of the General Counsel.

And Dr. Neville Joyner, Chief of the Rating Schedule Board.

I appreciate the courage that these gentlemen have sitting up on the platform when I am going to give my report, but I want to say that we deal with them daily and they are fairminded gentlemen and while we don't always agree on everything, they do know that the Disabled American Veterans are trying to do what we think is best for the disabled veteran. Just as they feel they are trying to do the same thing.

more than appreciate the manner in which your national commander described the situation this morning when Mr. Higley was introduced because I know a lot were apprehensive that probably the DAV would get a bad name, and we would get a bad name if we go to such lengths as indulging in personalities in any of our references over the problem of the rehabilitation of the veteran.

ANNUAL REPORT OF CICERO F. HOGAN, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF CLAIMS

National Director of Claims HOGAN. National Commander Burke, national officers, and my comrades of the Disabled American Veterans, I have again my privilege to report to you on the activities of our national service and rehabilitation program. In my opinion this is the most important and vital activity in the DAV. This is said without reflecting adversely on our legislative program or our employment situation. Both are indeed important and necessary. They all tie in together; but the claims service and the work of your national service officers, on duty in all the regional offices across the country, is our major program. Should anything happen to your claims service, there is little left to justify our existence.

While I am enthusiastic over the work performance of your national service officers wherever assigned, I am deeply depressed over the fact that I must report again that there has been a reduction in force due to resignations, retirement, and death. Our number is now down to

During the past year we lost by death three valuable national service officers, Mr. Theodore Corrado of Phoenix, Ariz., but for years in Milwaukee; Mr. John O. Goetz of the Cincinnati regional office; and Mr. Arthur Muchow of the Sioux Falls, S. Dak., office. Eight men retired or 27 years as a rehabilitation and national service officer of the DAV. The services of these men cannot be replaced. The vacancies created by these resignations and deaths have not been filled, except in a few instances. I am confident that in most instances none of these men would have tendered their resignations except for a desire to increase their incomes. I am hoping further resignations can be avoided and can only urge each department to find ways and means of supplementing the salaries of their national service officers. We are getting resignations from those departments that do augment the salaries of their service officers. Not all of them are so-called rich States members. An upsurge in membership would help; an increase in Identification returns, which is wholly possible, would give national an opportunity to effect raises where they are earned.

If ever a disabled veteran drawing compensation needed the DAV, it is now. If ever there was a need for our rehabilitation and claims service, with its trained and experienced national service officers, it is now and the immediate future. Don't let the passage of H. R. 52 by law fool anyone. A generous Congress has recognized the need for an increase in compensation. A not so generous Bureau of the Budget is undoubtedly urging the Veterans' Administration to find ways and means of reducing compensation costs. For example, the moderate increase offered by H. R. 52 will mean little if the carefully considered revision of the rating schedule brings about reductions; yes, marked reductions in awards. Remember the complaint of the

Bureau of the Budget is to the effect that, "Our compensation payments to service-disabled veterans now total nearly \$1.5 billion annually and in general are adequate," which simply means that, if increases are ordered by Congress, ratings must be reduced so that the total amount expended for compensation does not exceed \$1.5 billion. All the assurances given us by officials of the Veterans' Administration that they are not being influenced by pressure from the Budget Bureau or that the revision of the rating schedule is not in accordance with the recommendations of the Bradley Commission are difficult to accept after reading Director Brundage's letter of June 27, 1957.

We have been advised that the proposed revision of the schedule is, as we know, a time-consuming project. We have been further assured that the Director of Claims will, from time to time, be advised of proposed changes and that the Director or his designee will be given opportunity to register any protest to a proposed change or, better still, may submit constructive material intended to improve the schedule.

I mention all of this in order to impress upon this convention the importance of our keeping constantly alert and in touch with any revision of the rating schedule.

As already stated, it is folly to spend the time and effort to secure increases in compensation through legislative action only to allow such hoped-for increases to trickle away through our failure to keep an ever-watchful guard on the schedule for rating disabilities.

Recognizing the importance of the task before us, Commander Burke appointed the following national service officers to serve on the DAV rating schedule committee: Chester A. Cash, chairman, Washington, D. C.; Bernard Southard, Cincinnati, Ohio; Jack F. Feighner, Louisville, Ky.; James L. Monnahan, St. Paul, Minn.; Thomas McElwain, Philadelphia, Pa.; Rosario J. Aloisio, Hartford, Conn.; Edward J. Kelleher, Washington, D. C.; Cicero H. Hogan, ex officio, Washington, D. C.

This committee met at the call of the chairman and an excellent report has been prepared as a result of this meeting. I am sure Mr. Cash will give you full details in his report to this convention.

As director and as an ex officio member of the committee, please let me assure you that Commander Burke made a wise choice in naming the members of this committee. The work is extremely technical; not all service officers, even good ones, have a comprehensive knowledge of the subject of rating schedules. It requires constant study and research and your committee will be meeting with picked men of the Veterans' Administration sitting in a like capacity. Not all of the national service officers whom we recognize, from their correspondence, as having an astute knowledge of rating procedure are on this committee but all have shown a willingness to cooperate with the committee and will, I am sure, markedly strengthen its value to the DAV.

A matter which has taken up a great deal of time and interest of your national service officers, not only in the Washington office but throughout the country, is the review of all World War II compensation and pension cases, first ordered by Mr. Ralph Stone, then Deputy Administrator, on April 2, 1954, and further extended by Mr. Stone in his letter of December 14, 1954. This activity is now commonly known as the December 14, 1954, review.



Recently I issued a bulletin to all national service officers giving our story of the review. It has created considerable controversy and my associates and I feel that I should incorporate this information in this report in order that it will become a matter of official record.

The DAV for a long time stood alone in its criticism of this review or rather of the manner in which it was being conducted. May I suggest that you read national's first open attack on the review in the report to the convention of my assistant, Chester A. Cash, now appearing on page 61 of the published minutes of our San Antonio national convention.

We next expressed our views on the Higley Review as we first called it in the Semimonthly issues of September 27 and October 11, 1956. Remember, these were the views of the DAV as expressed in letters we received from national service officers from various parts of the country and from our very close contact with the situation here in Washington.

Mr. Cash, Mr. George Seal, and the writer had an opportunity to present ourselves in protest over the conduct of the review to high officials of the VA and certainly took advantage of the opportunity of expressing our objections, and presenting our reasons for our objections, to the adjudication officers assembled in Washington the last week of November 1956. This story was given you in my bulletin of December 7, 1956.

Later on we began to receive very disturbing reports from the field with regard to the pressure methods being used by supervisors from what we thought was central office. The first complaints contained very serious charges of threats being made to boards as to what to expect if they failed to show greater activity in conducting the review and produced a greater number of severences and reductions. Where previous results proved unsatisfactory to central office, a re-review was ordered. These alarming reports came from very dependable and trustworthy service officers who pledged us to secrecy lest the information be traced back to the VA employees in the respective offices and reprisals and retribution follow. We were assured by central office officials that such claims or charges were without foundation and moreover that these supervisors, or musclemen, came from area offices and not from central office.

We presented all this material to Commander Burke who was intensely interested in this activity of the VA and, at his suggestion, the directors of the three other veteran organizations were invited to a meeting for a discussion of the December 14, 1954, review with the hope that concerted action might modify or bring to an end some of the most objectionable phases of the review. This meeting was held at our national service headquarters in Washington and attended by the directors of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS and members of their staffs and field director of the American Red Cross. The DAV was represented by the writer, Mr. Cash, and Mr. Seal.

As the host organization, we led off with the reasons why the meeting was called and expressed the hope that joint action of all four organizations might correct the flagrant misapplication of existing laws and regulations as well as put a stop to the domineering, unethical, and abusive methods being used by supervisors under instructions either from central office or area offices. Each organization entered the discussion but I was surprised to hear one director state that he knew

of no objection from the field nor had he heard any criticism from his organization. My immediate reaction following the discussion, and it may not be important, was that the DAV stood pretty much alone in its criticism of a very critical situation. Either some of the organizations' leaders were unaware of the seriousness of what this review was doing to thousands of service-connected disabled or, for reasons known best to themselves, did not care to enter the controversy. At the close, however, it was agreed that all should report on the meeting to their respective organizations and, if all were in agreement, that we arrange for a further meeting before Chief Benefits Director Ralph Stone and members of his staff.

The meeting before Ralph Stone was delayed because of prior commitments (State conventions, etc.), of several who wished to attend but was called for July 9. Representatives of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, led by their respective claims directors, met at 10 a. m. July 9 for a "bull" session as to how each group wanted to present his "case." We were hardly in agreement on all counts but we knew what to expect in the afternoon session. Following a recess for lunch as the guests of the American Legion, we met in Mr. Ralph Stone's office at 2 o'clock. Mr. Stone presented the members of his staff and representatives of the Administrator who remained during the entire afternoon session.

As the bulletin was intended for the national service officers and national officers of the DAV and, in the interest of accuracy as well as brevity, I will confine myself to the remarks or presentation made by me and my assistants, Mr. Cash, Mr. Seal, and Mr. Kelleher who were present at the meeting. It should be remembered that this meeting resulted from the interest of the DAV in a situation which was rapidly developing into a general deterioration of the adjudicative division and to the damage of many seriously disabled service-connected veterans. Further, that we sought to arouse the interest of the other chartered veterans' organizations in the hope that a united stand or protest of all might prove immediately effective in correcting a situation that was becoming deplorable.

No notes were taken at the meeting of the speeches made or the testimony offered so, again in the interest of accuracy, let me quote from material received from the field and which we read at the hearing. A reliable and dependable national service officer had written me, as follows:

On my return home I found a team of 3 adjudication officials assigned here for 3 weeks to check on the work of this office. I do not personally know any of this group, but I understand they are adjudication officers or assistants from other stations. I do know that they have put the pressure on our local people, and the method includes memorandums on individual cases and group discussions with all rating personnel. The instructions are now so drastic that even the VA people are worried and depressed because of the unfair action they must take in evaluating a claim. I know of one case (in which we do not hold power of attorney) that was approved by the Board of Appeals on March 27, 1957, or 1 month ago, and the Board complied with the decision of increasing the rating. They are now ordered to scrap the rating and make the evaluation on a different basis than ordered by the Appeals Board. They are ordered to terminate service connection on cases without any semblance whatever of preexisting disability, not even the statements from the veteran. I understand they will complete their work at the end of this week, so I do not know whether any general instructions will be released here, but certainly that will not be necessary in the face of actions indicated above. Some of the personnel consider this situation as almost brutal.

This was met by explosive remarks of one official to the effect that this was a lot of lies and that the VA employees who talked like that to a national service officer were liars and loafers and ought to be fired. I then quoted from another letter from a national service officer reporting on his office, which stated :

Conditions in the field are getting worse day by day and I believe we have the opportunity now to take some action that may be beneficial to all of our disabled. The review of claims by the regional offices is not satisfactory to the officials in Washington and pressure is being exerted in no uncertain terms. I have a most reliable report to the effect that certain offices have been instructed to begin the review under the letter of December 14, 1954, from the beginning. These offices include Detroit, Huntington, and St. Paul. Those responsible at Cleveland are very much concerned that they will soon receive the same instructions. I fully realize that such statements as this cannot be proved and will be categorically denied by the VA, but nevertheless that's that. The inspection team representing the central office making visits to the field really put on the pressure. They have a method of grading the adjudication service similar to the method used in school. The evaluation runs from the low of unsatisfactory to the scale of outstanding. I do know that a certain office was just given a very bad report with the Boards rating as unsatisfactory ; I presume they will all be recalled for summer school. The Boards are now in the position of being in constant alarm as you know there is no definite pattern or consistency of instruction on how to rate a case. They only understand that they have certain quotas to meet by way of severing service connections and reducing ratings, but at the same time they must pay an occasional claim. It is, indeed a bad situation.

This didn't set well with Mr. Stone either who made more very uncomplimentary remarks about certain individuals in field offices and stated they just didn't want to take orders and do things the right way—Mr. Stone's way, I suppose.

We explained how we were unable to disclose the source of our information for fear the VA employees, many of them with fine outstanding records and years of service, would suffer reprisals. We assured Mr. Stone and his staff that we had not asked for these letters and that we knew nothing of what was going on until long-distance calls and letters, such as I read into the record, began coming into the office.

On Mr. Stone's insistence that all of these charges were baseless, I then read to him a letter sent to a national service officer by a legal member of a rating board who had tendered his resignation to the VA and decided to retire on disability. Remember again, this letter came to me unsolicited and with a request that it should not be publicized for fear it might affect the amount of his disability retirement. Really, one wonders what is going on in the VA or what country we are in. The brief letter states :

After having heard the results of the adjudication officers' conference in Washington it is my candid opinion that I wouldn't want to work in this organization any longer as a man who is unwilling to sacrifice his personal convictions of fair play to the carrying out of a word-of-mouth, unwritten policy to rob the veterans of benefits already given them under previous administrations will be in continual hot water. Therefore, I am filing my application for disability retirement today. Consequently, I will not carry further the hearing at this time. I want to thank you for your kindness and I do appreciate what you and the other boys have offered to do for me.

I frankly told Mr. Stone that never in my 25 years in this work and close association with the VA had I ever seen such a communication. Certainly no one can doubt this "legal member's" sincerity. He is neither a liar nor a bum in my book. Could it be he was just too fair to the veteran? Draw your own conclusions.

We are gravely disturbed over these reports coming from widely separated parts of the country. What may we expect of boards, supposedly sitting in a judicial capacity as qualified and honorable gentlemen, sworn to carry out their duties according to the law and the evidence, exercising the same wisdom and judicial fairness we expect of our Federal judges but who, in fact, are being intimidated, threatened, and bulldozed into conforming to the wishes of their superiors in central office who hold their jobs and careers in their hands? Should this continue, judicial review may not only be desired, it will be a necessity.

And then, we got down to the crux of the matter and our main objection to the December 14, 1954, review; and, that is the severance of service connection on the ground that a "clear and unmistakable error" had been committed. As stated before, the DAV had grown up to understand the sanctity and uphold the permanency of a service connection once granted and now we are witnessing the severance of service-connected awards with complete abandon of the law, the regulations, the instructions, and the oft reiterated directives of administrators. Because of its applicability in so many cases where service connection of long standing had been severed under the review, we quoted at length from a brief just presented to the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

The main issue presenting itself is what is meant by "clear and unmistakable error" as defined by the Veterans' Administration. There are other issues, equitable issues, which have been wholly ignored. Certainly the intent of the law to give special consideration to the man who has experienced extensive combat service against an enemy of the United States seems to be entirely disregarded. Another issue which is before us as a result of the review now being made by order of the Administrator is, how certain and how sure is any decision made by any authorized Board of the Veterans' Administration, for it appears that the work and decisions of years, by supposedly authorized agents of the Veterans' Administration, acting under the law as passed by the Congress of the United States and under accepted instructions and announced policy of the Veterans' Administration, may be subsequently reversed and cast into the discard by new agents and officials who are placed in authority and who, without any attempt to change either law or the regulations, assume the right and authority to decide that previous decisions made, if you please, by constituted and authorized agencies of the Government were in error, chiefly because they didn't agree with them or perhaps for other more hidden reasons.

Did the boards of original jurisdiction acting in these cases 10, 12, or 13 years ago actually commit error? Or, were they carrying out instructions of those in authority? (Each one of you should read the all-station service letter of January 20, 1944, issued by General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.) This outstanding document opens with the following paragraph:

A review of the November reports discloses that the field offices as a whole do not have a uniform understanding of the liberal provisions of section 9 (a) and (b), Public Law 144, 78th Congress.

and closes with the last paragraph reading:

The above is a very brief digest of principles which govern all rating determinations. If these are not followed and the ratings are too strict, the work will accumulate and further reviews will be required. You are requested to see to it

they are understood and that instructions 1, section 9 (a) and (b), Public Law 78th Congress is carefully reviewed and discussed in the light of the above.

We are taking the time to stress this directive because the main issue in most of these severed cases is that a "clear and unmistakable error" has been made. Who made the error? The rating boards or General Hines? We are being led to believe that the gentlemen ordering the conducting of the review are of the opinion that the real error is Public Law 144, 78th Congress. Why doesn't the Veterans' Administration tell Congress or the General Accounting Office that, instead of taking it out on the helpless claimant? In the majority of cases these decisions breaking service connection, to which we object, must stand or fall on an honest legal interpretation, honestly applied, of what is a "clear and unmistakable error." The regulations say it means "obvious or manifest." An accepted authority states:

That is obvious presents itself to everyone; it is seen at the first glance, and is opposed to that which is abstruse. What is evident is seen forcibly, and requires no hesitation on the mind; it is opposed to that which is dubious; manifest is a greater degree of the evident; it strikes on the understanding, it is opposed to that which is dark. (Crabb's English Synonymes. Central Ed.)

There is a moral obligation in reviewing these cases which cannot be overlooked. To deny service connection 8, 10, or 12 years after service connection was awarded is not only contrary to the intent of the law and the oft quoted regulations of the Veterans' Administration which hold that due consideration be extended to the defined and consistently applied policy of the VA to administer the law under a broad and liberal interpretation consistent with the facts shown in each case but does, in our opinion, amount to an immoral act. This may seem strong language but it isn't as strong or as offensive as the act of denying service connection and depriving a seriously disabled veteran of his only means of sustenance. Many of these decisions are devoid of equity and mercy. No civil court in the land would allow private corporation to get away with it. The law of estoppel would prevent it.

We insist there was no "clear and unmistakable error" made in these cases when they were originally awarded or when they were confirmed and continued down through the years. In each instance, the original Board acted under existing laws and regulations emphasized by directives of the Administrator or others in high authority.

There is no change or modification of the law. There is no change in the regulations which guided and controlled authorized boards which acted on these cases. Indeed the only change in these cases is that when it rated these claimants were America's heralded heroes of the worst war in history. And now, after 10 or 12 years, they are what? Just victims of a school of thought that wants to sacrifice them on the altar of economy as clear and unmistakable errors.

Remember the review is being conducted to correct errors: clear and unmistakable errors. In some 18 months, the DAV alone has won over 40 favorable decisions by the Board of Veterans' Appeals, restoring service connections which had been severed as a result of the review. Who is making errors now? It is apparent, all too apparent, that this review and the manner in which it is being conducted is creating more errors, yes; tragic errors, in too many instances and destroying the morale of the entire adjudicative division.

No one has satisfactorily explained to us how it is possible that the men now conducting the review are better equipped to rate cases than the boards of yesteryear. They certainly are not infallible. They make errors too. Ask the Board of Appeals.

The DAV feels that we just cannot, in good conscience, sit idly by and allow this review to continue without protest. If we do we are breaking faith with the men and women whose rights under the law we are pledged to uphold. We believe that this review will be justified if we are assured that not one single veteran be deprived of benefits to which he is justly entitled under the law and regulations. We insist that when a Board proposes to break service connection that the veteran and his representative be fully advised and that the Veterans' Administration be charged with the full responsibility of rendering the claimant every assistance possible toward securing evidence, at this late date, which the VA believes is necessary to maintain service connection under any reasonable theory as provided in regulations. Let them immediately discontinue the practice of breaking service connection after the veteran's death and then writing the widow a curt letter charging her with the responsibility of redeveloping her husband's case on which he had drawn compensation during his lifetime.

So this is just another picture of the work of your national service officers.

Submitted by me and as a part of this report, I am appending a correct and accurate recapitulation of the work of all DAV service offices, staffed by national service officers and covering the fiscal year closing June 30, 1957.

The grand total of monetary benefits secured should impress anyone with the importance of the work of the DAV national service officers.

This year we have enjoyed the full support of our national commander and the entire national executive committee. I hope we will be as fortunate during the coming year. It is well to remember that we function as officials of, and as spokesmen for, the national organization. We can succeed in our work only with the support and backing of the entire organization. Working as individuals, the result of our total efforts would be negligible.

This has been a trying year and I am afraid I did not paint a very cheerful outlook for the future. The work of the national service officers grows more difficult and their need more important. Let us keep them in the DAV and let us keep them working for the DAV. They are too valuable to lose. The DAV trained them. Why should other organizations profit by their training, their knowledge and their experience?

During the past year we have worked in close harmony with the Director of Legislation Omer W. Clark and the Director of Employment John W. Burris and Elmer Freudemberger, Major Clark's able assistant.

I wish to publicly express my sincere appreciation for the loyal support of my assistant Chester A. Cash and for his tireless efforts expended in an effort to improve our entire service program. Mr. Cash has proven to be a most capable and efficient service officer whose personality readily invites and holds the complete support and confidence of those with whom he is associated. I sure hope the DAV will retain his services for a long, long time. It will certainly be my recommen-

dation that he be retained as chairman of the rating schedule committee.

I am deeply grateful for the full and complete support of all of my associates in the Washington office. The claims division has enjoyed complete harmony and had we not lost the help of some very valuable secretarial assistance our year would have been far more productive. I am indeed fortunate in that I still have the help and assistance of my most efficient executive secretary, Mrs. Georgia Fahey, who has been with the Washington office for more years than she will allow me to tell you. May the DAV retain her valued services for many years to come.

*Grand recapitulation of national service officers' reports, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957*

Service connection.....	4,209
Increased compensation.....	17,780
Attendant's allowance.....	231
Nonservice pension.....	7,562
Death compensation.....	4,755
Insurance benefits.....	969
Burial allowance.....	1,568
Public Law 16 benefits.....	1,577
Public Law 346 benefits.....	1,921
Retirement.....	71
Total monthly increases.....	\$2,471,906.16
Total retroactive payments.....	\$13,574,525.90
Full amount.....	\$16,046,432.06
VA claims files reviewed.....	264,209
Appearances before rating agencies.....	121,035

*Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957*

PHILADELPHIA, PA., DISTRICT OFFICE

Death compensation (including death pension).....	439	Full amount.....	\$298,747.14
Insurance benefits.....	262	VA claims files reviewed.....	1,388
Total monthly increases.....	\$42,917.78	Appearances before rating agencies.....	191
Total retroactive payments.....	\$250,829.41		

DENVER, COLO., DISTRICT OFFICE <sup>1</sup>

Death compensation (including death pension).....	517	Total monthly increases.....	\$24,537.48
Insurance benefits.....	100	Total retroactive payments.....	\$209,723.57
Burial allowance.....	31	Full amount.....	\$234,261.00

MONTGOMERY, ALA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	42	Total monthly increases.....	\$73,873.72
Increased compensation.....	572	Total retroactive payments.....	\$107,753.68
Attendants allowance.....	1	Full amount.....	\$181,627.40
Nonservice pension.....	87	VA claims files reviewed.....	2,511
Death compensation (including death pension).....	43	Appearances before rating agencies.....	401
Insurance benefits.....	7		
Burial allowance.....	44		
Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550).....	63		

<sup>1</sup> Files reviewed and appearances before rating agencies included in Denver, Colo., regional office report.

## Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

## PHOENIX, ARIZ., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection	45	Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550)	1
Increased compensation	238	Total monthly increases	\$29,328.45
Attendants allowance	1	Total retroactive payments	\$116,032.63
Nonservice pension	90	Full amount	\$145,361.08
Death compensation (including death pension)	6	VA claims files reviewed	3,378
Burial allowance	6	Appearances before rating agencies	2,462
Public 16 benefits (including Public Law 894)	72		

## LITTLE ROCK, ARK., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection	36	Total monthly increases	\$15,166.00
Increased compensation	199	Total retroactive payments	\$44,793.79
Attendants allowance	2	Full amount	\$59,959.79
Nonservice pension	73	VA claims files reviewed	3,000
Death compensation (including death pension)	23	Appearances before rating agencies	69
Insurance benefits	1		
Burial allowance	1		

## LOS ANGELES, CALIF., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection	284	Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550)	352
Increased compensation	96	Total monthly increases	\$183,256.18
Nonservice pension	425	Total retroactive payments	\$980,980.75
Death compensation (including death pension)	466	Full amount	\$1,164,236.93
Insurance benefits	42	VA claims files reviewed	9,263
Burial allowance	195	Appearances before rating agencies	6,407
Public 16 benefits (including Public Law 894)	113		

## SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection	134	Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550)	319
Increased compensation	514	Total monthly increases	\$85,783.88
Nonservice pension	197	Total retroactive payments	\$492,441.69
Death compensation (including death pension)	92	Full amount	\$578,225.57
Insurance benefits	44	VA claims files reviewed	7,162
Burial allowance	61	Appearances before rating agencies	2,616
Public 16 benefits (including Public Law 894)	92		

## DENVER, COLO., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection	54	Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550)	10
Increased compensation	334	Total monthly increases	\$62,002.91
Nonservice pension	132	Total retroactive payments	\$267,640.64
Death compensation (including death pension)	385	Full amount	\$329,643.55
Insurance benefits	19	VA claims files reviewed	3,678
Burial allowance	9	Appearances before rating agencies	1,856
Public 16 benefits (including Public Law 894)	101		



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

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Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

HARTFORD, CONN., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	61	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	320	550)-----	2
Attendants allowance---	3	Total monthly in-	
Nonservice pension---	60	creases-----	\$42, 552. 96
Death compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
(including death pen-		ments-----	\$105, 612. 52
sion)-----	22	Full amount-----	\$148, 165. 48
Insurance benefits-----	7	VA claims files re-	
Burial allowance-----	43	viewed-----	4, 525
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies-----	2, 618
894)-----	5		

WILMINGTON, DEL., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	12	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases-----	\$5, 575. 78
tion-----	66	Total retroactive pay-	
Nonservice pension---	10	ments-----	\$28, 814. 12
Death compensation		Full amount-----	\$34, 389. 90
(including death pen-		VA claims files re-	
sion)-----	12	viewed-----	1, 092
Insurance benefits-----	1	Appearances before rat-	
Burial allowance-----	5	ing agencies-----	189
Public 16 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
894)-----	9		

WASHINGTON, D. C.—APPEALS

Service connection-----	200	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases-----	\$20, 550. 19
tion-----	385	Total retroactive pay-	
Attendants allowance---	9	ments-----	\$378, 746. 25
Nonservice pension---	16	Full amount-----	\$399, 296. 44
Death compensation		VA claims files re-	
(including death pen-		viewed-----	4, 553
sion)-----	21	Appearances before rat-	
Insurance benefits-----	6	ing agencies-----	4, 553
Burial allowance-----	1		
Public 16 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
894)-----	3		
Public 346 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
550)-----	4		

MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS

Total favorable decisions (retired pay; correction of military and			71
naval records; correction of discharges)-----			262
Appearances before review boards-----			\$7, 791. 35
Total monthly increases-----			\$388, 176. 79
Total retroactive payments-----			

WASHINGTON, D. C.—INSURANCE

Insurance benefits-----	231	Full amount-----	\$1, 072, 301. 46
Public 16 benefits (in-		VA claims files re-	
cluding Public Law		viewed-----	1, 716
894)-----	4	Appearances before rat-	
Total monthly increases	\$1, 603. 56	ing agencies-----	226
Total retroactive pay-			
ments-----	\$1, 070, 697. 90		

## THIRTY-SEVENTH NATIONAL REPORT

Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

## WASHINGTON, D. C.—MUNITIONS

Service connection.....	11	Total retroactive pay- ments.....	\$930, 804. 99
Increased compensa- tion.....	254	Full amount.....	\$958, 143. 48
Nonservice pension.....	39	VA claims files re- viewed.....	1, 500
Death compensation (including death pen- sion).....	384	Appearances before rat- ing agencies.....	1, 249
Burial allowance.....	51		
Full amount.....	\$958, 143. 48		
Total monthly increases..	\$27, 338. 49		

## WASHINGTON, D. C.—VETERANS' BENEFITS OFFICE

Service connection.....	44	Total monthly increases..	\$20. 645. 21
Increased compensa- tion.....	189	Total retroactive pay- ments.....	\$129, 364. 82
Nonservice pension.....	71	Full amount.....	\$150, 010. 03
Death compensation (including death pen- sion).....	5	VA claims files re- viewed.....	3, 439
Insurance benefits.....	2	Appearances before rat- ing agencies.....	545
Burial allowance.....	1		

## MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS

Total favorable deci- sions (retired pay; correction of military and naval records; correction of dis- charges) .....	71	Appearances before re- view boards.....	262
		Total monthly increases..	\$7, 791. 35
		Total retroactive pay- ments.....	\$388, 176. 79

## ST. PETERSBURG, FLA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	93	Public 346 benefits (in- cluding Public Law 550) .....	157
Increased compen- sation.....	396	Total monthly in- creases.....	\$54, 674. 35
Attendants allowance.....	2	Total retroactive pay- ments.....	\$299, 074. 89
Nonservice pension.....	164	Full amount.....	\$353, 749. 24
Death compensation (including death pen- sion).....	68	VA claims files re- viewed.....	4, 347
Insurance benefits.....	15	Appearances before rat- ing agencies.....	4, 044
Burial allowance.....	56		
Public 16 benefits (in- cluding Public Law 894).....	14		

## ATLANTA, GA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	49	Public 346 benefits (in- cluding Public Law 550) .....	30
Increased compen- sation.....	159	Total monthly in- creases.....	\$28, 404. 17
Nonservice pension.....	96	Total retroactive pay- ments.....	\$215, 785. 53
Death compensation (including death pen- sion).....	50	Full amount.....	\$244, 189. 70
Insurance benefits.....	10	VA claims files re- viewed.....	6, 650
Burial allowance.....	36	Appearances before rat- ing agencies.....	2, 883
Public 16 benefits (in- cluding Public Law 894).....	34		

Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

HONOLULU, T. H., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	33	Total monthly increases-----	\$4,065.90
Increased compensation-----	108	Total retroactive payments-----	\$21,322.19
Attendants allowance-----	1	Full amount-----	\$25,388.09
Nonservice pension-----	16	VA claims files reviewed-----	694
Death compensation (including death pension)-----	4	Appearances before rating agencies-----	348
Burial allowance-----	1		

BOISE, IDAHO, REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	49	Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550)-----	1
Increased compensation-----	106	Total monthly increases-----	\$14,599.55
Attendants allowance-----	5	Total retroactive payments-----	\$42,662.85
Nonservice pension-----	78	Full amount-----	\$57,262.40
Death compensation (including death pension)-----	1	VA claims files reviewed-----	1,057
Burial allowance-----	2	Appearances before rating agencies-----	669
Public 16 benefits (including Public Law 894)-----	26		

CHICAGO, ILL., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	95	Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550)-----	1
Increased compensation-----	470	Total monthly increases-----	\$79,393.14
Attendants allowance-----	14	Total retroactive payments-----	\$339,050.73
Nonservice pension-----	203	Full amount-----	\$418,443.87
Death compensation (including death pension)-----	31	VA claims files reviewed-----	5,916
Insurance benefits-----	3	Appearances before rating agencies-----	628
Burial allowance-----	23		
Public 16 benefits (including Public Law 894)-----	3		

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	87	Total monthly increases-----	\$32,962.56
Increased compensation-----	256	Total retroactive payments-----	\$177,740.90
Attendants allowance-----	2	Full amount-----	\$210,703.46
Nonservice pension-----	263	VA claims files reviewed-----	2,570
Death compensation (including death pension)-----	58	Appearances before rating agencies-----	1,427
Insurance benefits-----	2		
Burial allowance-----	16		

DES MOINES, IOWA, REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	41	Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550)-----	5
Increased compensation-----	379	Total monthly increases-----	\$61,960.80
Attendants allowance-----	14	Total retroactive payments-----	\$126,906.51
Nonservice pension-----	126	Full amount-----	\$188,867.31
Death compensation (including death pension)-----	24	VA claims files reviewed-----	4,251
Insurance benefits-----	4	Appearances before rating agencies-----	2,393
Burial allowance-----	6		
Public 16 benefits (including Public Law 894)-----	12		

*Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.*

## WICHITA, KANS., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	27	Public 346 benefits including Public Law 550)-----	9
Increased compensation-----	102	Total monthly increases-----	\$15,087.88
Nonservice pension-----	41	Total retroactive payments-----	\$62,519.26
Death compensation (including death pension)-----	34	Full amount-----	\$77,607.14
Insurance benefits-----	2	VA claims files reviewed-----	1,100
Burial allowance-----	9	Appearances before rating agencies-----	348
Public 16 benefits (including Public Law 894)-----	22		

## LOUISVILLE, KY., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	96	Total monthly increases-----	\$38,604.60
Increased compensation-----	478	Total retroactive payments-----	\$228,097.78
Nonservice pension-----	279	Full amount-----	\$261,702.38
Death compensation (including death pension)-----	89	VA claims files reviewed-----	6,640
Insurance benefits-----	10	Appearances before rating agencies-----	4,438
Burial allowance-----	65		

## NEW ORLEANS, LA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	47	Total monthly increases-----	\$17,077.46
Increased compensation-----	82	Total retroactive payments-----	\$49,182.00
Nonservice pension-----	57	Full amount-----	\$66,259.46
Death compensation (including death pension)-----	21	VA claims files reviewed-----	2,084
Burial allowance-----	28	Appearances before rating agencies-----	430
Public 16 benefits (including Public Law 894)-----	16		
Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550)-----	2		

## SHREVEPORT, LA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	5	Total retroactive payments-----	\$4,284.54
Increased compensation-----	13	Full amount-----	\$5,995.19
Attendants allowance-----	1	VA claims files reviewed-----	603
Nonservice pension-----	7	Appearances before rating agencies-----	193
Public 346 benefits (including Public Law 550)-----	4		
Total monthly increases-----	\$1,710.65		

## TOGUS, MAINE, REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	20	Total monthly increases-----	\$15,104.94
Increased compensation-----	102	Total retroactive payments-----	\$82,179.43
Nonservice pension-----	41	Full amount-----	\$97,284.37
Death compensation (including death pension)-----	14	VA claims files reviewed-----	960
Insurance benefits-----	3	Appearances before rating agencies-----	121
Burial allowance-----	14		

Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

BALTIMORE, MD., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	16	Total monthly increases.....	\$11, 432. 35
Increased compensation.....	168	Total retroactive pay-	
Nonservice pension.....	44	ments.....	\$67, 913. 71
Death compensation (in-		Full amount.....	\$79, 346. 06
cluding death pen-		VA claims files re-	
sion).....	15	viewed.....	2, 906
Insurance benefits.....	5	Appearance before rat-	
Burial allowance.....	13	ing agencies.....	144
Public 16 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
894).....	4		

BOSTON, MASS., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	408	Total monthly increases.....	\$109, 241. 31
Increased compensation.....	733	Total retroactive pay-	
Attendants allowance.....	14	ments.....	\$312, 342. 92
Nonservice pension.....	158	Full amount.....	\$421, 584. 23
Death compensation (in-		VA claims files review-	
cluding death pen-		ed.....	19, 005
sion).....	40	Appearances before rat-	
Insurance benefits.....	9	ing agencies.....	6, 137
Burial allowance.....	34		

DETROIT, MICH., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	290	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases.....	\$99, 230. 27
tion.....	884	Total retroactive pay-	
Attendants allowance.....	8	ments.....	\$976, 374. 69
Nonservice pension.....	649	Full amount.....	\$1, 075, 604. 96
Death compensation (in-		VA claims files re-	
cluding death pen-		viewed.....	24, 458
sion).....	71	Appearances before rat-	
Insurance benefits.....	16	ing agencies.....	9, 260
Burial allowance.....	88		

(FORT SNELLING) ST. PAUL, MINN., REGIONAL OFFICE<sup>2</sup>

Service connection.....	16	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion.....	209	550).....	46
Attendants allowance.....	4	Total monthly in-	
Nonservice pension.....	99	creases.....	\$34, 968. 09
Death compensation (in-		Total retroactive pay-	
cluding death pen-		ments.....	\$262, 940. 11
sion).....	358	Full amount.....	\$297, 908. 20
Insurance benefits.....	42	VA claims files re-	
Burial allowance.....	41	viewed.....	2, 283
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies.....	1, 186
894).....	23		

<sup>2</sup> This report includes the activities of the St. Paul district office as well as the regional office.



Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

LINCOLN, NEBR., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	56	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensation-----	141	cluding Public Law	
Attendants allowance-----	1	550)-----	28
Nonservice pension-----	33	Total monthly increases-----	\$17,490.57
Death compensation (in-		Total retroactive pay-	
cluding death pen-		ments-----	\$104,574.15
sion)-----	23	Full amount-----	\$122,064.72
Insurance benefits-----	8	VA claims files re-	
Burial allowance-----	8	viewed-----	1,444
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies-----	917
894)-----	35		

RENO, NEV., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	5	Total monthly increases-----	\$2,280.52
Increased compensation-----	18	Total retroactive pay-	
Attendants allowance-----	1	ments-----	\$25,024.43
Nonservice pension-----	11	Full amount-----	\$27,304.55
Death compensation (in-		VA claims files re-	
cluding death pen-		viewed-----	214
sion)-----	4	Appearances before rat-	
Insurance benefits-----	3	ing agencies-----	71
Burial allowance-----	1		
Public 16 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
894)-----	1		

MANCHESTER, N. H., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	25	Total monthly increases-----	\$12,335.82
Increased compensation-----	111	Total retroactive pay-	
Attendants allowance-----	10	ments-----	\$130,369.32
Nonservice pension-----	32	Full amount-----	\$142,705.14
Death compensation (in-		VA claims files re-	
cluding death pen-		viewed-----	2,703
sion)-----	29	Appearances before rat-	
Insurance benefits-----	17	ing agencies-----	804
Burial allowance-----	18		
Public 16 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
894)-----	1		

NEWARK, N. J., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	127	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	757	550)-----	88
Nonservice pension-----	182	Total monthly in-	
Death compensation		creases-----	\$100,159.14
(including death pen-		Total retroactive pay-	
sion)-----	67	ments-----	\$320,646.94
Insurance benefits-----	9	Full amount-----	\$420,806.08
Burial allowance-----	40	VA claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	7,596
cluding Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
894)-----	141	ing agencies-----	3,284

## Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

## ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	77	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	354	550)-----	61
Attendants allowance---	9	Total monthly in-	
Nonservice pension---	130	creases-----	\$50,207.48
Death compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
(including death pen-	39	ments-----	\$176,819.97
sion)-----		Full amount-----	\$227,027.45
Burial allowance-----	15	VA claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	3,247
cluding Public Law	45	Appearances before rat-	
894)-----		ing agencies-----	1,597

## ALBANY, N. Y., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	59	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases-----	\$19,383.31
tion-----	102	Total retroactive pay-	
Nonservice pension---	96	ments-----	\$65,874.17
Death compensation		Full amount-----	\$85,257.48
(including death pen-	43	VA claims files re-	
sion)-----		viewed-----	3,516
Burial allowance-----	23	Appearances before rat-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		ing agencies-----	1,987
cluding Public Law	3		
894)-----			

## BROOKLYN, N. Y., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	41	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	296	550)-----	39
Attendants allowance---	9	Total monthly in-	
Nonservice pension---	59	creases-----	\$29,531.00
Death compensation (in-		Total retroactive pay-	
cluding death pen-	7	ments-----	\$316,536.17
sion)-----		Full amount-----	\$346,067.17
Insurance benefits-----	2	VA claims files re-	
Burial allowance-----	7	viewed-----	3,291
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law	22	ing agencies-----	1,552
894)-----			

## BUFFALO, N. Y., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	30	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases-----	\$31,308.65
tion-----	336	Total retroactive pay-	
Attendants allowance---	1	ments-----	\$126,280.37
Nonservice pension---	125	Full amount-----	\$157,589.02
Death compensation (in-		VA claims files re-	
cluding death pen-	18	viewed-----	2,678
sion)-----		Appearances before rat-	
Burial allowance-----	7	ing agencies-----	1,718
Public 346 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law	55		
550)-----			



Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	84	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases-----	\$57,769.41
tion-----	623	Total retroactive pay-	
Attendants allowance--	1	ments-----	\$272,785.60
Nonservice pension-----	112	Full amount-----	\$330,555.01
Death compensation (in-		VA claims files re-	
cluding death pen-		viewed-----	6,366
sion)-----	10	Appearances before rat-	
Insurance benefits-----	7	ing agencies-----	3,930
Burial allowance-----	17		
Public 16 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
894)-----	14		

SYRACUSE, N. Y., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	39	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	164	550)-----	32
Attendants allowance--	3	Total monthly in-	
Nonservice pension-----	38	creases-----	\$14,906.34
Death compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
(including death pen-		ments-----	\$61,075.85
sion)-----	7	Full amount-----	\$75,982.19
Burial allowance-----	4	VA claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	2,316
cluding Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
894)-----	33	ing agencies-----	803

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	67	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	263	550)-----	96
Nonservice pension-----	73	Total monthly in-	
Death compensation		creases-----	\$46,564.01
(including death pen-		Total retroactive pay-	
sion)-----	25	ments-----	\$158,487.13
Insurance benefits-----	2	Full amount-----	\$205,051.14
Burial allowance-----	33	VA claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	3,017
cluding Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
894)-----	10	ing agencies-----	2,025

FARGO, N. DAK., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	23	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	106	550)-----	23
Attendants allowance--	8	Total monthly in-	
Nonservice pension-----	18	creases-----	\$13,177.63
Death compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
(including death pen-		ments-----	\$34,500.82
sion)-----	4	Full amount-----	\$47,678.45
Burial allowance-----	11	VA claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	852
cluding Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
894)-----	18	ing agencies-----	290

## Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—

## CINCINNATI, OHIO (NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS STAFF AND REGIONAL OFFICE)

Service connection-----	219	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases-----	\$91,
tion-----	509	Total retroactive pay-	
Nonservice pension-----	575	ments-----	\$359,
Death compensation		Full amount-----	\$451,
(including death pen-		VA claims files re-	
sion)-----	156	viewed-----	
Burial allowance-----	70	Appearances before rat-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		ing agencies-----	
cluding Public Law			
894)-----	68		

## CLEVELAND, OHIO, REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	102	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases-----	\$80,
tion-----	715	Total retroactive pay-	
Nonservice pension-----	417	ments-----	\$350,
Death compensation		Full amount-----	\$431,
(including death pen-		VA claims files re-	
sion)-----	149	viewed-----	
Burial allowance-----	84	Appearances before rat-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		ing agencies-----	
cluding Public Law			
894)-----	41		
Public 346 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
550)-----	50		

## MUSKOGEE, OKLA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	26	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	248	550)-----	
Attendance allowance---	8	Total monthly in-	
Nonservice pension-----	150	creases-----	\$42,
Death compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
(including death pen-		ments-----	\$133,
sion)-----	56	Full amount-----	\$176,
Insurance benefits-----	1	VA claims files re-	
Burial allowance-----	10	viewed-----	
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies-----	
894)-----	91		

## PORTLAND, OREG., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	37	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensation---	201	cluding Public Law	
Attendants allowance---	1	550)-----	
Nonservice pension-----	92	Total monthly increases---	\$17,
Death compensation (in-		Total retroactive pay-	
cluding death pen-		ments-----	\$59,
sion)-----	41	Full amount-----	\$77,
Burial allowance-----	9	VA claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	
cluding Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
894)-----	12	ing agencies-----	

Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

PHILADELPHIA PA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	65	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensation.....	348	cluding Public Law	
Attendants allowance.....	14	550).....	80
Nonservice pension.....	129	Total monthly increases.....	\$43,692.71
Death compensation (in-		Total retroactive pay-	
cluding death pen-		ments.....	\$186,462.80
sion).....	32	Full amount.....	\$230,155.51
Insurance benefits.....	5	VA claims files re-	
Burial allowance.....	14	viewed.....	4,056
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies.....	1,825
894).....	56		

PITTSBURGH, PA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	54	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensation.....	349	cluding Public Law	
Attendants allowance.....	5	550).....	9
Nonservice pension.....	118	Total monthly increases.....	\$41,699.63
Death compensation (in-		Total retroactive pay-	
cluding death pen-		ments.....	\$206,174.18
sion).....	43	Full amount.....	\$247,873.81
Insurance benefits.....	6	VA claims files re-	
Burial allowance.....	35	viewed.....	3,863
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies.....	1,426
894).....	42		

WILKES-BARRE, PA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	49	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensation.....	260	cluding Public Law	
Nonservice pension.....	100	550).....	13
Death compensation (in-		Total monthly increases.....	\$37,592.14
cluding death pen-		Total retroactive pay-	
sion).....	24	ments.....	\$128,448.01
Insurance benefits.....	9	Full amount.....	\$166,040.15
Burial allowance.....	30	VA claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed.....	4,539
cluding Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
894).....	1	ing agencies.....	2,005

PROVIDENCE, R. I., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection.....	15	Total retroactive pay-	
Increased compensation.....	52	ments.....	\$33,435.51
Attendants allowance.....	2	Full amount.....	\$41,135.27
Nonservice pension.....	34	VA claims files re-	
Death compensation (in-		viewed.....	2,800
cluding death pen-		Appearances before rat-	
sion).....	13	ing agencies.....	1,160
Burial allowance.....	12		
Total monthly increases.....	\$7,699.76		

## Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

## COLUMBIA, S. C., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	42	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensation-----	152	cluding Public Law	
Nonservice pension-----	40	550)-----	5
Death compensation (in-		Total monthly increases-----	\$29, 434. 07
cluding death pen-		Total retroactive pay-	
sion)-----	7	ments-----	\$43, 741. 16
Insurance benefits-----	1	Full amount-----	\$73, 175. 23
Burial allowance-----	18	VA claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	1, 889
cluding Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
894)-----	3	ing agencies-----	127

## SIOUX FALLS, S. DAK., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	18	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases-----	\$7, 874. 95
tion-----	65	Total retroactive pay-	
Nonservice pension-----	23	ments-----	\$34, 547. 44
Death compensation		Full amount-----	\$42, 422. 39
(including death pen-		VA claims files re-	
sion)-----	30	viewed-----	549
Burial allowance-----	7	Appearances before rat-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		ing agencies-----	135
cluding Public Law			
894)-----	5		

## NASHVILLE, TENN., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	64	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	237	550)-----	1
Attendants allowance-----	5	Total monthly in-	
Nonservice pension-----	211	creases-----	\$29, 044. 80
Death compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
(including death pen-		ments-----	\$142, 034. 98
sion)-----	23	Full amount-----	\$171, 079. 28
Insurance benefits-----	4	VA claims files re-	
Burial allowance-----	15	viewed-----	3, 886
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies-----	1, 876
894)-----	19		

## DALLAS, TEX., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	38	Total monthly in-	
Increased compensa-		creases-----	\$26, 840. 41
tion-----	217	Total retroactive pay-	
Attendants allowance-----	9	ments-----	\$136, 569. 81
Nonservice pension-----	130	Full amount-----	\$163, 410. 22
Death compensation		VA claims files re-	
(including death pen-		viewed-----	2, 925
sion)-----	79	Appearances before rat-	
Insurance benefits-----	10	ing agencies-----	2, 005
Burial allowance-----	22		
Public 346 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
550)-----	1		

utilation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

HOUSTON, TEX., REGIONAL OFFICE

connection-----	35	Public 346 benefits (in-	
ased compen-		cluding Public Law	
	209	550)-----	83
ice pension-----	81	Total monthly in-	
ompensation (in-		creases-----	\$50,340.28
g death pen-		Total retroactive pay-	
	34	ments-----	\$156,171.77
ce benefits-----	1	Full amount-----	\$206,512.05
allowance-----	3	VA claims files re-	
16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	2,060
g Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
-----	27	ing agencies-----	252

LUBBOCK, TEX., REGIONAL OFFICE

connection-----	26	Public 346 benefits (in-	
ased compen-		cluding Public Law	
	88	550)-----	9
nts allowance-----	1	Total monthly in-	
ice pension-----	25	creases-----	\$8,562.35
ompensation (in-		Total retroactive pay-	
g death pen-		ments-----	\$48,701.85
	7	Full amount-----	\$57,264.20
ce benefits-----	1	VA claims files re-	
allowance-----	17	viewed-----	2,001
16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
g Public Law		ing agencies-----	170
-----	9		

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., REGIONAL OFFICE

connection-----	15	Total monthly in-	
ased compen-		creases-----	\$10,584.45
	114	Total retroactive pay-	
ice pension-----	42	ments-----	\$45,251.23
ompensation (in-		Full amount-----	\$55,835.68
g death pen-		VA claims files re-	
	7	viewed-----	1,221
ce benefits-----	3	Appearances before rat-	
llowance-----	1	ing agencies-----	51
16 benefits (in-			
g Public Law			
-----	26		

WACO, TEX., REGIONAL OFFICE

connection-----	19	Total monthly in-	
ad compensa-		creases-----	\$12,574.71
	80	Total retroactive pay-	
nts allowance-----	6	ments-----	\$40,105.23
ice pension-----	66	Full amount-----	\$52,679.94
ompensation (in-		VA claims files re-	
g death pen-		viewed-----	642
	30	Appearances before rat-	
ce benefits-----	1	ing agencies-----	323
llowance-----	10		
16 benefits (in-			
g Public Law			
-----	16		

## THIRTY-SEVENTH NATIONAL REPORT

Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

## SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	26	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	198	550)-----	4
Attendants allowance--	7	Total monthly in-	
Nonservice pension---	36	creases-----	\$19,732.28
Death compensation (in-		Total retroactive pay-	
cluding death pen-		ments-----	\$61,888.87
sion)-----	18	Full amount-----	\$81,621.15
Insurance benefits---	5	V A claims files re-	
Burial allowance-----	2	viewed-----	903
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies-----	727
894)-----	52		

## WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VT., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	8	Total monthly increases--	\$3,832.06
Increased compensa-		Total retroactive pay-	
tion-----	35	ments-----	\$9,722.95
Attendants allowance--	2	Full amount-----	\$13,555.01
Nonservice pension---	13	V A claims files re-	
Death compensation (in-		viewed-----	566
cluding death pen-		Appearances before rat-	
sion)-----	2	ing agencies-----	81
Insurance benefits---	1		
Burial allowance-----	4		

## ROANOKE, VA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	19	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	180	550)-----	17
Attendants allowance--	11	Total monthly increas-	
Nonservice pension---	36	es-----	\$15,595.98
Death compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
(including death pen-		ments-----	\$51,932.87
sion)-----	8	Full amount-----	\$67,528.85
Burial allowance-----	7	V A claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	1,770
cluding Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
894)-----	43	ing agencies-----	667

## SEATTLE, WASH., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	94	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensa-		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	297	550)-----	63
Attendants allowance--	7	Total monthly increas-	
Nonservice pension---	205	es-----	\$52,069.08
Death compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
(including death pen-		ments-----	\$226,500.28
sion)-----	149	Full amount-----	\$278,569.36
Insurance benefits---	10	V A claims files re-	
Burial allowance-----	20	viewed-----	3,803
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies-----	1,598
894)-----	55		

Recapitulation of service activities, July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957—Con.

HUNTINGTON, W. VA., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	54	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensation		cluding Public Law	
tion-----	135	550)-----	4
Nonservice pension-----	52	Total monthly increas-	
Death compensation		es-----	\$49,669.26
(including death pen-		Total retroactive pay-	
sion)-----	15	ments-----	\$84,248.21
Insurance benefits-----	5	Full amount-----	\$133,917.47
Burial allowance-----	21	VA claims files re-	
Public 16 benefits (in-		viewed-----	3,805
cluding Public Law		Appearances before rat-	
894)-----	30	ing agencies-----	1,446

MILWAUKEE, WIS., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	43	Public 346 benefits (in-	
Increased compensation		cluding Public Law	
Attendants allowance-----	10	550)-----	19
Nonservice pension-----	107	Total monthly increases	\$35,782.95
Death compensation (in-		Total retroactive pay-	
cluding death pen-		ments-----	\$153,411.66
sion)-----	65	Full amount-----	\$189,194.61
Insurance benefits-----	4	VA claims files re-	
Burial allowance-----	23	viewed-----	1,931
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies-----	1,983
894)-----	43		

CHEYENNE, WYO., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	3	Total monthly increases	\$3,287.79
Increased compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
Nonservice pension-----	10	ments-----	\$7,288.52
Death compensation (in-		Full amount-----	\$10,576.31
cluding death pen-		VA claims files re-	
sion)-----	4	viewed-----	354
Public 16 benefits (in-		Appearances before rat-	
cluding Public Law		ing agencies-----	162
894)-----	7		
Public 346 benefits (in-			
cluding Public Law			
550)-----	6		

F. A. HOWARD—MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., REGIONAL OFFICE

Service connection-----	9	Total monthly increases	\$6,348.08
Increased compensation		Total retroactive pay-	
Nonservice pension-----	40	ments-----	\$20,502.80
Death compensation (in-		Full amount-----	\$26,850.88
cluding death pen-		VA claims files re-	
sion)-----	15	viewed-----	589
Insurance benefits-----	2	Appearances before rat-	
		ing agencies-----	518

My report will be followed by the reports of my assistant, Mr. Cash; Mr. Dove of our insurance division; and Mr. Dunn of the Munitions Buildings; and I will ask Mr. Seal to read the report; and Mr. Egense of our field section; and I will ask Mr. Seal to read the report of Mr. Gottschalk on Military Affairs.

From the bottom of my heart I want to thank every man and woman in this room who are loyal and active members of the DAV. Your very presence here shows that you do appreciate the seriousness of the work we are in and your value to the person or persons who may be far more disabled than you are if, in some instances, such a thing is possible. Again, I thank you all.

[The convention rose to applaud Captain Hogan.]

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Thank you, Captain Hogan. At this time would you come and introduce your assistants to the delegation?

Captain HOGAN. I would like to introduce to you the gentleman that I just spoke about in closing my report, Mr. Chester Cash of the Washington office. He has been with the DAV for over 11 years now and for a long time served in the field section of the Washington office. He has been in my office for the past 4 or 5 years and has been my assistant in the past 3 years. He is, in my opinion, as much of an expert on rating problems as his predecessor, Quintus Camp.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON (Chapter No. 11, Dallas, Tex.). If a motion is in order I thought that we might vote on them more intelligently if we take each one of them separately.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Speaking on a point of order, this is a composite report made up of five departments of the director of claims office. When the five reports are in then a motion is in order to accept and refer the report of the director of claims and his associates to the proper committees of the convention, and at that time whoever is recognized can express his appreciation and acceptance with appreciation and so forth.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Thank you, Mr. Corbly. Mr. Cash?

#### REPORT OF CHESTER A. CASH, ASSISTANT NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF CLAIMS

National Director of Claims CASH. National Commander Burke and delegates to the 1957 national convention, I appreciate this opportunity to appear before all of you again this year and present my report as part of the report of the national director of claims, Cicero F. Hogan.

As the assistant national director of claims, I work very closely with Mr. Hogan and assist him in the regulation and direction of the largest national service program of any of the veterans organizations. I am very proud and consider it an honor to be associated with Mr. Hogan as I personally consider him as the one man in veteran affairs in this country who has done more than any other one person in advancing and furthering the cause of disabled everywhere. While his duties as a director do not always permit him to deal directly with cases, he has never failed to interest himself in individual problem cases and his capable leadership in Washington has been a source of inspiration and encouragement to us all.



This report also includes the accomplishments of my associate, Mr. George H. Seal, who works with me and whose assistance has helped to make this a most successful year, insofar as winning claims is concerned. In this report I use the word "we" to indicate both the work of Mr. Seal and myself. Mr. Seal has proved to be a most valuable associate and his tenacity and dedication should be acknowledged to you all.

The most important function of this office is the processing and handling of all administrative reviews, that is, special claims arising in our field offices which present special rating problems or where there is involved errors in adjudicative practice or violation of schedular or regulatory provisions in rating claims. At the request of the national service officer, these difficult cases are called into Washington for our own review and then are presented to the Veterans' Administration central office for decision. In addition, the director has delegated to this office the responsibility of review of all claims referred to central office in which service connection has been broken as the result of the review of claims ordered by the Deputy Administrator's letter of December 14, 1954. This office also provides advisory information to national service officers and others in the interpretation and application of the many laws and regulations and 1945 rating schedule criteria. We also have the responsibility of handling and replying to the countless communications that come into national headquarters regarding veteran's loan and education programs, benefit programs, and hospital and medical programs of the Veterans' Administration.

This past year has been an important and eventful one for all disabled veterans. I would like to highlight for you my observations of some of the most important developments in the claims and rehabilitation areas and report to you the accomplishments of this office in the summarization of our year's work.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEWS

You will readily recognize that it is virtually impossible for any agency as large as the Veterans' Administration to make completely correct and uniform rating decisions all over the country. There are bound to be mistakes made, chiefly as the result of misunderstanding of certain laws, regulations or policies of the Veterans' Administration on the part of the Rating Board. There are presently in effect over 1,000 laws affecting veterans' benefits and a multitude of Veterans' Administration regulations and instructions that every rating agency must know and apply to every case. Many times the law is erroneously applied or plain errors of rating procedure occur. The national service officer, in his everyday practice before the Rating Board, must be able to recognize errors and make verbal or written requests for correction. More often than not, the Rating Board may be willing to make such corrections, however, where there is a failure to do so, the national service officer may then request his national service headquarters in Washington, D. C. to seek further review of the case in central office. It must be remembered that higher review of a rating decision may be had by two distinct means, by administrative review and by appeal. The Board of Veterans' Appeals is constituted to resolve cases wherein there are involved questions of fact.

and law or where there is disagreement over the weight of the evidence or evaluation of a disability. The administrative boards have authority to correct procedural and technical errors and to standardize rating decisions in accordance with consistently defined policies. We do not present all cases called in for our review, but we carefully review and screen out those which do not fully qualify for such review.

In the past year we called into Washington 267 such cases for review. Of this number, we presented for administrative review, 127. The following is a breakdown of our success in this program.

Called for review-----	267	Remanded-----	7
Presented-----	127	Pending our review-----	29
Allowed-----	62	Pending decision-----	9
Denied-----	49		

These results reveal the advantage and actual value of having the DAV represent the interests of every disabled veteran. Every case in which DAV holds power of attorney is checked and reviewed carefully to assure our claimants full protection and entitlement under all laws and regulations. Every veteran seeking the help of the DAV knows that there is a coordinated effort on our part to fully represent his interests at all stages of adjudication including review at the original board, central office, at the Appeals Board. Monetary gains and recoveries achieved as the result of the above are not reported here since they are reported by the national service officer submitting the case for review.

#### THE DAV RATING SCHEDULE COMMITTEE

This year, as the result of a resolution passed at the last national convention, the national commander appointed a rating schedule committee on which I had the pleasure of serving as chairman. This committee, composed of national service officers from various sections of the country, included: Bernard Southard, Cincinnati, Ohio; Jack Feighner, Louisville, Ky.; James L. Monnahan, Minneapolis, Minn.; Thomas McElwain, Philadelphia, Pa.; Rosario Aloisio, Hartford, Conn.; Edward F. Kelleher, Washington, D. C.; Cicero F. Hogan, Washington, D. C.

We met in Washington, D. C. the full week of April 8 through 12, 1957, with orders not only to study and recommend revisions to the 1945 schedule but also to prepare a rebuttal to those recommendations of the Bradley Commission which were thought to be inimical to the best interests of disabled veterans. I can think of no better time to release this report than at this convention and copies of it will be made available to all who are interested in it. I am hopeful that it can be published in its entirety in our DAV semimonthly. I intend to distribute it to all members of Congress and to all administrative officials in the Veterans' Administration. I am sure you will find the report of the DAV rating schedule committee revealing and informative and in many respects, prophetic. We have attempted through this work to alert all disabled veterans of the importance of the rating schedule and to suggest to the Veterans' Administration ways and means of improving it according to our experience. I therefore submit it as part of my report and request that it be a part of this convention proceedings.

It is known that the Veterans' Administration is and has been for sometime conducting a very special study of the current schedule.

We cannot imagine why such a special study has become so necessary at this time or why special efforts are now being taken to develop the ideas and opinions of doctors and others to bring the schedule up to so-called modern medical standards. We can only guess that this is being done because the Bradley Commission recommended that it should be done. Ever since it was issued the schedule has been the subject of study and over 80 distinct changes have been made to conform to experience gained over the years. If we are to draw any conclusions from the medical opinions furnished the Bradley Commission in response to their questionnaire to the doctors, it must be that no definite medical principles are revealed since there is no agreement on anything. We are not unaware that the Bradley Commission showed extreme interest in the schedule and suggested many ways in which it could be changed and rewritten.

Recently the Veterans' Administration released a draft of proposed changes to the schedule and a copy of the proposed changes was furnished the director with the promise that before such changes were actually put into effect we would be given an opportunity to appear before the Veterans' Administration rating authorities to offer any comment and argument we so desired. We shall certainly do this but only after we have had sufficient time to study and analyze these far-reaching proposed changes by submitting such proposals to our entire national service staff at this convention for their reaction. Remember that most of these proposed changes have not yet been coordinated through the Veterans' Administration and are now only in a proposed stage. Admittedly some of the proposed changes will be to the benefit of some disabled veterans; however, we note that most of the proposed downgrading of percentage ratings appear in the musculoskeletal system which includes residuals of gunshot wounds and static muscle injuries. The schedule has always contained certain rules for rating muscle injuries since it was always difficult to completely visualize the passage of a high-explosive missile through a muscle group and thus difficult to arrive at a correct percentage rating. It is now proposed that these rules be scrapped in favor of a system of evaluating and rating muscle injuries on the basis of the residual disability demonstrated by objective examination. There are other proposed changes upon which we could comment at this time, however, since this draft of changes is only in the formulative stage, no purpose would be served by relating all of the proposals in this report. It goes without saying that at this time we are far from convinced that many of the proposed reductions in percentage rating are justified on any reasonable basis. We recognize too that the Congress of the United States brought into being the rating schedule but has left to the discretion of the Administrator to prescribe rates for disability in accordance with experience. It is our hope and our urging that the Administrator will not permit indiscriminate and unwarranted changes in the schedule which would cause loss of compensation based merely on so-called modern medical thinking. A through-and-through gunshot wound or a poker spine is just as disabling now as it was 10 years ago and no amount of modern hypothesis can change this fact. Our only alternative to indiscreet tampering with the schedule will be to urge the Congress to freeze the schedule against any further reduction in rates.

Your rating schedule committee has also advanced rebuttal argument to many of the drastic proposals of the Bradley Commission which would revolutionize the traditional, long-established principles governing the granting and schedular evaluation of war-incurred disabilities. The committee went on record as unalterably opposed to several major recommendations which would—

1. create a plan which would remove all of the 10-percent and 20-percent cases from the compensation rolls through a short-term settlement plan;

2. end all the legal presumptions for chronic disabilities and substitute in place thereof a system where service connection would be established on the facts and diagnosis;

3. terminate all statutory awards for especially severe types of disabilities and integrate them into some elaborate schedule with other type of disabilities.

In addition your rating schedule committee has recommended several important revisions to the schedule which we think necessary according to our experience. It will be noted, however, that many of our recommended changes are at complete variance with some of those changes proposed by the Veterans' Administration.

I urge each and every one of you to read and study the rating schedule committee report and to familiarize yourselves with the DAV's answer to all of the vicious attempts to weaken the present program of benefits to our war disabled. It has been a good, sound workable program and still is.

This report would not be complete without an acknowledgement of appreciation for the support and cooperation of every national service officer throughout the country. Also I would like to commend to you the efforts and interest that National Commander Burke has shown in the claims and rehabilitation service. In the past year he has worked untiringly to bring about a more militant atmosphere in our fight for the objectives of the DAV.

Captain HOGAN. I would now like to introduce National Service Officer John N. Egense, field section, a charter member of the DAV, and an employee of the national since 1929. Mr. Egense.

National Appeals Officer JOHN N. EGENSE. National Commander Burke, delegates to the 1957 convention, I appreciate this opportunity to appear before this convention and to submit to you, at the request of the director of claims as part of his report, the report of the activities of the men in my office operating in your behalf before the Board of Veterans' Appeals at central office, Washington, D. C.

Associated with me for a number of years are National Service Officers Edward J. Kelleher, Nick Rezar, Raymond Hooper, and Martin Holly, all veterans of World War II. I consider these men experts in their knowledge of veterans' laws and, by their training, experience and aptitude, are second to none in their work in presenting claims before the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Senators and Congressmen often seek their help in representing them before the appeal group. I am proud of their record and their accomplishments as I hope you will be. This has been a hard year on appeal cases.

I am sure all national service officers of the DAV are familiar with the letter of December 14, 1954, which ordered a review of all World War II or peacetime veterans receiving benefits under the age of 55

years. When you take into consideration that, as a result of this review, service connection was severed in 5,480 cases, and we received quite a number of these cases on appeal, you can plainly see why I say this was a hard year.

Mr. Hogan has been very helpful in appearing with us before the Board from time to time and sometimes these sessions have been stormy. We deeply appreciate the help of Captain Hogan and you can be sure that he and the other men in the Washington office are trying to do a good job.

I hope you will now bear with me while I render my report.

Claims files reviewed.....	4, 554
Appearances before appeal board.....	4, 542
Appeals remanded.....	371
Appeals withdrawn.....	7
Decisions still pending.....	702
Appeals denied.....	3, 453
Personal contacts.....	275
Correspondence received.....	300
Correspondence answered.....	449
Members obtained.....	4

ALLOWED

Service connected allowed.....	206
Increased compensation.....	423
Attendance allowance.....	4
Nonservice pension.....	27
Death compensation.....	24
National service life insurance.....	4
Public Law 16 training.....	3
Public Law 346 training.....	2
Public Law 550 training.....	7
Public Law 182.....	4
Public Law 702 house.....	1
Public Law 187 automobile.....	2
Medical reimbursement.....	5
Dental.....	2

Total cases allowed..... 714

Increased monthly benefits.....	\$20, 515. 19
Retroactive benefits.....	368, 966. 25

Total..... 378, 746. 75

Captain HOGAN. I would now like to introduce Mr. Robert Dove, our national insurance officer, for his report.

REPORT OF ROBERT F. DOVE, NATIONAL INSURANCE OFFICER

National Insurance Officer Dove. National Commander Burke and delegates to the 1957 convention, this is a report of my activities as national insurance officer of the office of the national director of claims, and submitted at his request and as a part of his report.

The past year has not been too productive or important insofar as the Government insurance program is concerned. There has been no legislation by Congress nor have there been any hearings held by the Senate or House committees with regard to Government insurance. As most of you realize, the Servicemen's and Veterans' Survivor Benefits Act was passed prior to our last convention. This act abolished servicemen's indemnity on and after December 31, 1956, so that in the future all persons entering service will no longer be pro-

tected by any form of insurance or indemnity. The act did cost the right of service personnel, discharged by reason of disability, to apply for insurance protection. Due to this change in the philosophy of our Government to provide insurance protection to service personnel and the right of veterans to apply for new insurance or in cases where reinstated lapsed insurance, it becomes more important than ever for those of you who are fortunate enough to have been issued Government insurance to do everything within your power to continue your insurance. You should pay your premiums promptly and if you are not converted you should seriously consider doing so. That is the course, providing you have the financial means. You should keep in mind the fact that most of you are suffering from rather severe disabilities and, if you fail to pay the premiums and your policy lapses, there would be the question as to whether you could meet the health requirements in order to reinstate your insurance. A considerable amount of time spent by my office and the offices of the other national service officers has been in representing the disabled veteran in an attempt to reinstate his insurance. So I again implore you, be sure to pay your premiums promptly or, better still, if in receipt of compensation, have your premiums deducted from your compensation.

Since our last convention there has been a change in the office of Chief Insurance Director for the Department of Insurance. Last year I informed you that Mr. James A. Finnegan, Jr., had resigned. Mr. Charles G. Beck who retired on January 31, 1956. Mr. Finnegan resigned on December 18, 1956, and on January 22, 1957, Sumner G. Whittier was appointed to replace Mr. Finnegan as Insurance Director for the Department of Insurance. We trust that Mr. Whittier will be able to "wear" better in Government service than his predecessor and we also hope that there will be no drastic change in policy of the Insurance Department, particularly in its handling of cases of the disabled American veterans. We know that Mr. Whittier will be advised and counseled by individuals who have already proved their principles. We, of course, refer to Mr. G. McGurn, Director of Insurance Claims Service, Mr. Ralph D. Director, Insurance Accounts Service, and Mr. J. T. Willett, Director of Underwriting Service. I might also mention that Mr. F. Girardi retired as Insurance Counsel on June 1, 1957, after 40 years of Federal service. Mr. Oliver Clay, his associate, is now acting as Insurance Counsel and we feel certain he will receive the official appointment in the near future.

I do not know how many of you realize it, but the Insurance Department of the Veterans' Administration is the largest ordinary insurance company in the world today. We believe a brief mention of the magnitude of the Veterans' Administration administered insurance program will interest you members. The following figures were officially reported for May 1, 1957:

United States Government life insurance—370,005 policies in force in the amount of \$1,613,017,602, including 20,097 5-year level premium term policies valued at \$127,992,520. This insurance is held primarily by World War I veterans for the most part.

National service life insurance—5,426,016 participating policies in force in the amount of \$35,598,254,712, including 3,261,201 5-year level premium term policies with face amount of \$25,060,993,000. The

policies were issued to veterans of service between inclusive dates of October 8, 1940, and April 24, 1951. In addition, nonparticipating national service life insurance was issued to veterans of service between October 8, 1940, and September 2, 1945, for whom good health provisions were waived because of service-connected disabilities. There were in force 7,303 such policies in the amount of \$39,980,516, including 3,760 term policies in the amount of \$23,837,000.

National service life insurance issued on a nonparticipating term basis only to veterans discharged on or after April 25, 1951; veterans special term insurance—728,684 policies in the amount of \$6,661,414,000. Service disabled veterans insurance—26,109 policies in the amount of \$228,428,593, including 14,781 term policies in the amount of \$137,695,500.

You will see from the above that there are 6,558,117 policies of all types for a total amount of insurance of \$44,141,095,423. Another interesting fact, brought out by the above figures, is that only 5 percent of the World War I veterans carrying United States Government life insurance have continued their insurance on the term plan, whereas 60 percent of the World War II veterans carrying national service life insurance still continue their insurance on a term plan. The above indicates to us that apparently the World War II veteran has not learned the unfortunate lesson experienced by his World War I comrade in not having converted his insurance at an earlier age. Recently, in handling a claim for a World War I veteran for total and permanent disability benefits under his United States Government life insurance, I noted the following which caused me great concern. This veteran has a \$5,000 5-year convertible term policy which was effective July 1, 1927, at the age of 53 with a monthly premium of \$7.65. He continued to renew this policy each 5 years, as he was required to do, at an increase in the monthly rate each time, until recently on the last renewal which occurred on July 1, 1957, when, at the age of 83, his monthly premium had increased to the astounding amount of \$103.25. I totaled the premiums that he had paid over the past 30 years and found that for this \$5,000 policy he had paid the Government \$9,759. Now, I know what most of your reactions will be to this and that is, "Oh, I'll never live that long." However, I am sure that this veteran was of the same opinion. So, I implore each and everyone of you, who can afford the additional premiums that would be required, to convert your insurance now while you are at a young age so that you may not have to pay the Government more than the amount of the protection furnished.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the assistance and cooperation which we have received from Mr. Hogan in our problems with the Insurance Department of the Veterans' Administration. Mr. Hogan is vitally interested in the veterans' insurance problem and is always available when problems arise from our duties. The DAV should indeed consider itself very fortunate in having as its national director of claims a gentleman who is dedicated to the cause of the Disabled American Veterans.

We are leaving the report concerning insurance legislation to Maj. Omer W. Clark who, as our director of legislation, will cover the subject in his annual report. We have worked very closely with Major Clark and his able assistant, Mr. Elmer Freudenberger, during the

past year on proposed bills to correct certain inequities in the insurance program.

We are still quite concerned over two serious problems in connection with insurance issued to World War I and Korean veterans. The first problem is in connection with World War I insurance and concerns those disabled veterans who reinstated their insurance under section 304 of the World War Veterans Act of 1924, as amended. Back in 1949, at the Cleveland convention, I informed members as follows:

During the past year many policyholders of United States Government Life Insurance have received form letters from the Veterans' Administration notifying them that they were indebted to the Veterans' Administration due to a lien having been placed on their policy. To many this came as an utter surprise for they had forgotten that more than 20 years previously, in order to reinstate their policies, it was necessary for them to pay back all premiums in arrears from the date of lapse to the date of reinstatement. This is what is known as section 304 lien as provided in the World War Veterans' Act of 1924. This section sets forth that a disabled veteran, unable to meet certain requirements of good health, could have his insurance reinstated providing that all premium payments from date of lapse to date of reinstatement, plus interest compounded at 5 percent annually, be paid. If the insured was unable to pay this amount of money in cash, he was permitted to place a lien for the amount of premiums, plus interest, against his policy. Down through the years, for what reason we are unable to determine, the Veterans' Administration failed to keep the policyholders advised as to the existing lien and the ever increasing amount of lien due to the 5 percent interest compounded annually. Not until 1948 did they finally make a survey of these accounts and notify the policyholders of the existing liens. This action on the part of the Veterans' Administration caused considerable confusion and consternation upon the part of the policyholders and to your national insurance officer.

After our 1949 convention we attempted to secure remedial legislation to correct the above problem. However we, as well as other veterans' organizations, were unable to convince Congress of the necessity of legislation to correct this most unjust problem. We still believe that there is a need for legislation and have presented for the consideration of this convention a resolution which we believe will afford relief to these unfortunate comrades.

The other problem with which we are concerned pertains to Korean veterans who were discharged from their period of Korean service due to a mental disorder, particularly those found to be incompetent. As most of you know, Public Law 23, 82d Congress, section 620, provided that veterans discharged with a service-incurred disability were entitled to apply for national service life insurance within 1 year from the date it was first determined that their disability was due to service. In the majority of cases veterans entitled under this section have applied and been issued the insurance without any trouble. However, those who were discharged as incompetent could not apply because of their incompetency and, in a great many cases, had no one to act in their behalf. As you no doubt realize, an incompetent must have a guardian or fiduciary to act in his behalf and, in the majority of cases which we have handled, we have found that guardians or fiduciaries were not appointed until the one year in which they were entitled to apply for this insurance had expired. At last year's convention we had a resolution concerning this problem submitted to the convention and adopted. As a result our legislative department had a bill prepared, H. R. 8709, which is now pending before the Congress. In the event there are no hearings held on this bill this year, I have the assurance of Major Clark's office that an all-out effort will be made



ext session of Congress to have hearings held on this bill and hope that Congress will correct this most unfortunate situa-

year in my report to the convention, I brought to your attention insurance death claims would in the future be handled in the l offices. We were quite concerned as to whether VA personnel offices could properly handle a program in which they had ious experience or training. We dispatched a bulletin to our l service officers in the regional offices noting our concern and them on notice of what to expect and how our office, as well nen in the district offices, could be of assistance to them. We complaint from our national service officers in the field this ar so, therefore, must assume that insurance death claims are andled properly.

statistical report for the past year will include the reports of y on insurance claims from the regional offices as well as the offices. It is quite possible, due to the newness in the handling rance claims in the regional office, that some of our national officers have failed to report some insurance claims.

se claims handled by field offices-----	711
se claims handled by central office-----	225
<b>total number of claims-----</b>	<b>936</b>
se benefits in field offices (Death & W. P.)-----	\$1, 982, 601. 40
se benefits in central office (Death, W. P. & P&T)-----	1, 070, 699. 87
<b>total-----</b>	<b>3, 053, 301. 27</b>
ases allowed-----	7
ases remanded-----	7
ases denied-----	41
ases pending-----	13
<b>total appeal cases-----</b>	<b>68</b>
trative reviews allowed-----	8
trative reviews denied-----	10
trative reviews pending-----	2
<b>total review cases-----</b>	<b>20</b>

ng the past year our office has received 1,618 pieces of mail and have sent out 1,024 letters. We also were able to secure seven ls or new annual memberships.

onclusion, I take this opportunity to thank all of our national officers in the regional offices and district offices for their splen- operation in working with this office on problems relating to the i policyholder. We are indeed fortunate in having such loyal dicated persons defending the rights of the disabled American

1.  
ain HOGAN. I would now like to introduce to you a man who sen over the entire benefit office downtown since the reorgani- of the veterans organization. There is more stuff coming h Washington than many of us believe. National service offi- nald H. Dunn.

## REPORT OF NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER DONALD H. DUNN, VETERANS BENEFIT OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

National Service Officer DUNN. Thank you, Mr. Hogan.

Officials of the Veterans' Administration, national commander, and delegates to the Disabled American Veterans Convention, the Disabled American Veterans, veterans benefits office in Washington, D. C., from July 1, 1956 until June 30, 1957 has been carrying on with a further reduced personnel and a somewhat lessened case load, but with a continuing receipt of a rather comparatively large amount of correspondence. This report includes activities and statistical summary of this office, including the following types of cases:

- (1) The cases of those who served prior to July 16, 1903.
- (2) Cases of residents of the United States Soldiers' Home.
- (3) Cases of disabled veterans residing outside the continental limits of the United States.
- (4) Cases in which an applicant's entitlement to pension under the General Law, act of 1862, including amendments thereto, are involved.
- (5) Those cases in which veterans' rights have been forfeited under any act, with the exception of a veteran who might have entitlement because of service subsequent to the date of commission of the act on which forfeiture was based.
- (6) Cases concerning the claims of all veterans of the Army of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, including alleged or recognized guerrillas, who do not reside within the Philippine Islands.
- (7) Cases concerning the claims of veterans who may have entitlement pursuant to special acts of Congress.
- (8) Cases concerning the claims of veterans for specially adapted housing.
- (9) Cases before the Central Committee on Waivers and Forfeitures. This includes cases in which the overpayment is in excess of \$800; forfeitures of rights, and those in which the national service officer in the field—or the veteran—has requested an administrative review concerning an overpayment.
- (10) Cases concerning claims of the dependents of deceased veterans who served as our allies in the Philippines.
- (11) Death cases which are transferred to veterans benefits office for action in K insurance and which involve death compensation and pension ratings made while veterans benefits office has jurisdiction.
- (12) Cases before the Central Committee on Waivers and Compromises, whose purpose is to compromise on indebtedness on GI loans.

On August 7, 1956, circular 23 was issued for decentralization of all VA employee cases to the field; however, action was withheld and after further study interim issue DA-7 was issued October 5, 1956. Decentralization began October 18, 1956, and was completed January 29, 1957. During this time 47,941 VA employee files were decentralized to VA offices near the office where the veteran was employed. In cases of veterans working in VA hospitals the case was sent to the regional office in that State.

The foregoing presented tremendous problems for master locator and this office as we have received many inquiries regarding prefer-

ters, compensation checks and medical evidence on behalf of its whose cases were not here. Each of our offices was notified date of transfer, but complications developed because of shipping and processing, and the claimants appeared not to know of the date of shipment. Much of this could have been prevented if each claimant been notified of the transfer of his file and the new location. There were instances when we gave the man in the field the information because it was a physical impossibility for master locator to furnish us up-to-date information regarding many VA em-ployees. Answers to your many inquiries as to location of cases are often delayed because we are not furnished enough information to identify the case. The furnishing of the date of birth and/or master locator number will usually do the trick.

April 9, 1956, TWX was issued decentralizing certain death cases from St. Paul and Philadelphia district offices to regional offices effective June 11, 1956, which provided many complications.

Long after the beginning of this decentralization we began receiving much correspondence about these death cases as apparently the claimants were not notified of the transfer. The checks were held up because of the transfer and changes of address came in. Here again master locator gave us incorrect information which we relayed to the claimant. This is no criticism of master locator, but, again, this would not have occurred had the claimant been advised of the transfer of his file to a new location. It gives the VA the appearance that master locator knows what it is doing. Perhaps someone was trying to save money but to me it was being penny wise and pound foolish.

Let's get back to service to the veteran and his dependents, abiding by the laws of Congress and complying with the VA's own regulations and stop this "anything to save a dollar." We think our veterans are more important than this. There may be another day when master locator will be needed.

Before the central committee on waivers and forfeitures meets with us as claimants in receipt of part III pension benefits still neglect to report income exceeding \$1,400 if single or \$2,700 if married. In any instance, if you start receiving income which averaged over a 12-month period would exceed the income limitation, this must be immediately reported to the VA. If you are receiving additional benefits as dependents you must report a change of marital status, even if you are divorced one day and remarry the next. When you receive a VA check, do not assume the VA is correct and cash it. If you doubt it or if you think you are not entitled to the amount on the check, you should immediately return it to the VA as you may be held responsible. This committee deals with all types of cases of overpayment to the VA to claimants and the forfeiture of rights because of submission of fraudulent statements or other false evidence.

The VA has been in such a hurry to sever service connection that it has to stand a year's backlog has accumulated and these cases are piling up in Veterans' Benefits Office. If a case file has left the regional or central office or the Veterans' Benefits Office, a pretty sure bet is that severance of service connection has been proposed. We cannot gain any information, cannot represent or defend the claimant until we submit a 2-22, power of attorney, or submit medical evidence. In the case is then expedited to the severance board and service connection will be severed much, much quicker. I can unconditionally

assure you we can always expedite severance and I believe this is the most unjust act ever perpetrated upon America's defenders. A veteran cannot have the opportunity of defending himself, face his accusers, or even know he is accused until he is convicted. It makes no difference whether you ever had a pain in the back or toe or whether you ever said you did, if a remark to this effect is in your file, severance is in the offing. A criminal doesn't have to answer anyone if he thinks it will be used against him but a veteran doesn't have this privilege because he gave his health and now that the war is over payment for his war disabilities is considered a gratuity.

Through many years a grateful Government has passed laws to provide certain benefits to wartime veterans and their dependents and the Veterans' Administration has promulgated and interpreted its own regulations for the same purpose. All of a sudden these same laws and regulations are used to deny benefits. Why? There is only one answer and that is "To save a dollar at the expense of the veteran." The war is over.

During the past year 8,068 pieces of correspondence have been received in this office which necessitated the attention of each individual in the office, in spite of the fact that we have been handicapped by the lack of personnel. Mrs. Joyce Corbin transferred to national headquarters, 1701 18th Street NW., December 11, 1956, and Mrs. Dolores Beauchamp resigned March 18, 1957, to accept employment at a higher salary. On April 22, 1957, Mrs. Alva Holm retired from the VA claims service and began her duties as secretary. We are fortunate to obtain the services of someone so capable. Miss Audrey Delong continues as the mail and file clerk and very capably goes about her many duties, other than just filing. There has been a full schedule every day of the past year with complications and the many and varied duties we have been called upon to perform were accomplished only through the willingness and efforts of Mrs. Corbin, Mrs. Beauchamp, Miss Delong, and Mrs. Holm.

Service connection .....	11
Increased compensation .....	254
Nonservice pension .....	17
Death compensation .....	406
Memberships .....	45
Burial allowance .....	51
VA files reviewed .....	1,500
Appearances before rating agencies .....	1,249
	<hr/>
Total monthly increases .....	\$27,338.49
Total retroactive payments .....	930,804.99
	<hr/>
Full amount .....	958,143.48

Captain HOGAN. Gentlemen, I have one more report from a member of my staff. I will have George Seal read the report of Arthur M. Gottschalk, national service officer, military and naval affairs.

You may remember for many years this report was given by David Pogoloff. He left the employment of the DAV and is now an employee of the Veterans' Administration.

ANNUAL SERVICE REPORT OF ARTHUR M. GOTTSCHALK, NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER, MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS

Comrade GEORGE SEAL (reading). National Commander Burke, delegates to the convention, ladies and gentlemen, this is a report of

the activities of the military and naval affairs section of the office of the national director of claims, Mr. Cicero F. Hogan, for the period July 1, 1956, through June 30, 1957.

Before launching into the body of my report, I would like to pay tribute to David Pogoloff, my associate for the past 5 years, and a national service officer for the Disabled American Veterans for 12 years. Dave has resigned from the organization and is now an employee of the Veterans' Administration. His resignation has dissolved a close association from which this section will be slow to recover. I am sure that the membership joins me in wishing him the success he certainly deserves in his new endeavor.

The scope of the work handled by this section, in general, comprises appearances before military and civilian boards of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

More specifically, each branch of the Armed Forces maintains boards of jurisdiction as follows:

1. Discharge review boards established by section 301, Public Law 346, 78th Congress.
2. Retirement review boards established by section 302, Public Law 346, 78th Congress.
3. Correction boards established by section 207, Public Law 601, 79th Congress, amended by Public Law 220, 82d Congress.
4. The Navy and Marine Corps also permit the appearance of counsel before the Physical Disability Appeal Board on Career Compensation Act cases.

In addition to preparing, presenting, and prosecuting claims before the above-cited boards, this section also prepares and prosecutes claims for retroactive retired pay through the General Accounting Office.

Disability retirement cases continue to make the greatest demands on our time. They are growing more complex with each year. This is due largely to precedent decisions handed down by the United States Court of Claims and decisions rendered by the Comptroller General.

For example, until recently the Department of Defense maintained that an individual was not eligible for disability retirement under the Career Compensation Act of 1949 if he was found to be incapacitated for active duty by reason of a disability incurred during World War II in any instance where there had been a break in service unless it could be proven that the last tour of duty had unmistakably aggravated the condition.

During the past year the Comptroller General decided that this interpretation was erroneous as the Career Compensation Act did not impose a condition requiring uninterrupted military service for awarding disability retirement under the act.

The erroneous interpretation of this statute by the Department of Defense has resulted in the denial of disability retired pay to many servicemen and officers in the approximately 7 years that it was in effect. The big problem now is to try and reach these people in order that they reopen their cases and obtain the benefits that are due them under the law.

Another major duty of this section is to furnish suitable replies to the thousands of letters that come in from the national service officers in the field, department and chapter officers, and the public in general. The nature of this correspondence covers all phases of military and naval affairs.

Most of our cases, as has been true for the past several years, are those under consideration by the various correction boards. Last year we found it necessary to berate the Army Board for Correction of Military Records. Since November 1956, however, after a conference with the Assistant Secretary of the Army, the situation has improved. We still do not feel that the Department of the Army maintains a Correction Board that measures up to its counterparts in other branches of the Department of Defense, but just so long as we believe that there is a continued effort toward improvement, we do not intend to renew our criticism through the medium of our annual report unless we find that all other means fail.

Before leaving this subject, the membership undoubtedly will be interested in a recent decision reached by the United States Court of Claims in the case of Francis J. Proper. In its decision the court, in effect, scolded the Secretary of the Army for viewing the recommendation of the Correction Board as being solely advisory in nature, leaving him free to accept or ignore it as he saw fit. In the cited case the Secretary rejected the favorable findings of the Correction Board in favor of an adverse recommendation made by a retired army officer acting as a consultant. The court stated in part with regard to this action:

Such an interpretation of section 207 makes the words "acting through boards of civilian officers or employees" superfluous. Neither the act itself nor its legislative history warrants such an interpretation. Since the errors or injustices which might require correction were originally made by the military, Congress made it manifest that the correction of those errors and injustices was to be in the hands of civilians.

This decision was read with great gratification, because it hit squarely at one of the points of our criticism last year and more than justified the position we took at that time.

We are hopeful that this same decision may ultimately lead to a discontinuance of the practice of referring disability cases to military doctors for advisory medical opinions. We have always alleged that this practice defeats the purpose of section 207, because in the final analysis the Board, although it is composed of civilians, is persuaded to a great degree by the medical thinking of the military.

To overcome this we continue to urge that the Department of Defense maintain a staff of civilian medical consultants in the various branches of medicine upon whom all of the correction boards may call for the advisory medical opinions they admittedly require. Whether or not this action is ever taken remains to be seen. We fear that it will only come about after the court sees fit to take the military to task for this practice.

There has not been any marked change with regard to the Retirement Review Boards. Once again we find that the Department of the Army is the least inclined to dispense justice. We attribute this to (1) the Board's reluctance to relate and interpret the disabilities in terms of the law and policies in effect during World War II. It is our belief that instead they allow current retirement policies stemming from the Career Compensation Act of 1949 to color their thinking; (2) we are convinced, that in the minds of at least certain members of the Board, the fact that there is a large retroactive retirement payment due which will accrue from favorable action on their part acts as a deterrent. These same individuals fail to realize that had

justice been served at the time these officers had been separated from active duty, they would have been drawing retired pay over the years. Actually, the Government has had the use of this money without interest charges which in our minds makes the position of those opposed to the payment of retroactive pay completely untenable.

It is believed that the failure to fully serve the ends of justice may, and probably is, attributable to the failure of furnishing the Board members with a proper indoctrination as to (1) their exact function and, (2) a thorough understanding of the law, regulations, and policies in effect at the time the applicants were separated.

Finally, it may well be said that the whole matter appears to boil down to the application of a wrong philosophy. We strongly suspect that these cases are approached with the attitude of how they may be denied rather than is there a basis for allowing them. This approach, in our opinion, is contrary to the intent of Congress when it enacted section 302, Public Law 346, 78th Congress. If the Congress was not interested in offering relief, the act would never have been enacted into law. This was intended to be beneficial legislation, and, as such, should be administered in a broad sense and certainly not as stringently as is the current vogue.

In the report of last year, the problem of the young man who had received any other than honorable discharge was discussed and we expressed our deep concern. During the past 12 months a Special Subcommittee on Military Discharges was appointed in Congress with Congressman Clyde Doyle, of California, as chairman. Congressman Doyle has been both interested and active on this subject for several years and is well suited to the task.

The problem however, as we see it, is not one that can be overcome easily by legislation, and it would appear that the committee found this out. After extensive study a bill was finally drafted which, in effect, makes it mandatory that the boards of jurisdiction consider the postservice conduct of the applicant in determining whether or not a discharge should be changed.

We fail to see in what way the recipient would benefit if this bill should ever be enacted into law. Insofar as we can determine, it would merely constitute a change in the title of the discharge, because one cannot escape the fact that it would still be a discharge under other than honorable conditions and the stigma would still remain.

The committee felt that effective relief would lie in the fact that in the eyes of the general public this type of discharge, while it would not alter the fact that the military service was somewhat less than honorable, it would establish that the applicant's conduct after service was exemplary. In other words, it appears that the committee is trying to create a class of citizens who will be labeled as poor soldiers, but good civilians. As a purely practical matter, we do not believe that this type of legislation would satisfy anyone, least of all the aggrieved veteran.

The committee's study of this entire subject has not been without its salutary effects, however. It appears that in the future a man seeking to reenlist in order to redeem his record will stand a much better chance of doing so, and in the case of the Air Force, at least, the fellow with "two left feet" will no longer run the risk of getting an unfavorable type of discharge simply because he is inept. This

type of individual now receives an honorable discharge by reason of unproductivity.

Having been closely associated with this problem for quite a number of years, it is believed that the existing situation is one that can better be remedied by administrative action from within the Department of Defense itself. With this in mind, we recommend the following:

1. When after entrance into active duty it becomes manifest that a boy is going to become a disciplinary problem, he should be returned to his home with a certificate showing an incomplete tour of duty. It should be made clear to him that this action is taken because his record shows that he has not as yet matured sufficiently to conduct himself as a man, and his military obligation to his country is being postponed until he grows up. This procedure would permit the individual, as a civilian, time enough to review his behavior in the military and learn that it would be to his advantage upon reentering service to make the necessary adjustment. If, upon reaching the age of 21, he had not attempted to reenlist, then his induction would become mandatory.

2. The commanding officers of each major unit in the Army and Navy should be charged with the responsibility of maintaining lists showing the sources from which unfavorable types of discharges emanate. In this way, it could then be traced to the commanding officer at the lowest echelon responsible for these actions and he could then be asked to account for it. This recommendation is made because it has been our observation that not all officers have the same quality of leadership and those with the least ability are the ones most prone to bestow unfavorable discharges. Certainly, the individual should not be punished because his superior lacks the ability to handle men.

A statistical summary of the cases handled and the monetary benefits obtained is attached to this report.

In conclusion, I want to express my thanks to the staff members at national service headquarters, to our service officers in the field, and to the people in my immediate office. Without their constant assistance and cooperation, the work of this office could not be carried on.

*Annual service report of Arthur M. Gottschalk, 1956-57*

	Hearings	Allowed	Denied	Pending
<b>Army:</b>				
1. Board for correction of military records.....	37	15	7	15
2. Disability review board.....	14	4	9	1
3. Discharge review board.....	59	10	46	3
<b>Air Force:</b>				
1. Board for correction of military records.....	13	10	1	2
2. Disability review board.....	2	2		
3. Discharge review board.....	37	2	35	
4. Physical disability appeal board.....	1	1		
<b>Navy:</b>				
1. Board for correction of naval records.....	40	21	8	11
2. Retiring review board.....	7	12	13	2
3. Discharge review board.....	50	3	40	7
<b>Marine Corps:</b>				
1. Physical disability appeal board.....	2	1	1	
Totals.....	262	71	150	41

<sup>1</sup> Referrals.

NOTE.—Referral-type cases are those referred by the Navy Correction Board to the Navy Retiring Review Board for an advisory medical opinion.



REPORT SUMMARY

hearings.....	262
owed.....	71
denied.....	150
pending.....	41
forms 149 submitted.....	118

(Applications to Correction Board (all services); 27 were granted formal hearings; 24 were denied formal hearings; 67 are in a pending status.)

total monthly retired pay.....	\$7, 791. 35	
total annual retired pay.....		\$93, 496. 20
total retroactive retired pay (excluding GAO claims).....		299, 452. 02
compensation pay (one case).....		3, 650. 40
total mustering-out pay.....		3, 400. 00
World War I bonus, adjusted compensation (one case).....		1, 936. 00
General Accounting Office claims (retroactive retired pay).....		38, 724. 77

Grand total of benefits obtained..... \$440, 659. 39

Captain HOGAN. Mr. Commander, this closes the report of the director of claims.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. You have just heard the report of the director of claims and his assistants. At this time a motion is in order to accept these reports.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON (Chapter No. 11, Dallas, Tex.). We just heard the report of our director of claims. The only thing he needs now is to use a few cuss words and pound the desk and he will be like we was in 1938 and 1944. He gave us one of the outstanding reports we have had in a long time. This outfit is not generally blessed with leaders like "Cap" Hogan. What I am thankful for, he has the education and intestinal fortitude to tell and diplomatically speak for

The only difference between him and me, I would only use two words.

I move this report be accepted along with his outstanding associates and they be referred to the proper convention committees.

Comrade FRANK T. GARRETT (Chapter No. 1, Cincinnati, Ohio), second the motion.

Comrade LEWIS MURPHY (Chapter No. 75, Dallas, Tex.). Mr. Commander, at a closed meeting of all the national service officers this morning, Captain Hogan opened up his heart and poured out his soul to us. We learned when we came to this convention first hand, from him, some of the things that have been transpiring behind the scenes in this organization. There were no members of the Veterans' Administration present and there were only service officers there. We always invite the Veterans' Administration, year after year, to our hearings. We are glad to have them. We differ with them, too, and it is no crime to differ with them. A smart man once said when two or more men work all the time together and they always agree, it is a dead cinch they are not all necessary.

At the conclusion of this meeting this morning it was pointed out that Captain Hogan had been under a great deal of pressure. Some of it from the outside and, yes, I am sorry to say we have got timid fellows in this organization, some of it was from the inside, asking him to either tone down or delete parts of his report. Hogan spoke to me like he always has, as a lawyer, as a true leader, and a man who stands on principles, and who will not betray the interests of the disabled veterans.

I want to say to you delegates to this convention that we are faced in this convention with bigger and greater problems than we had back in 1933 in the face of the Economy Act and I was there. I want to say to you at the end of that conference this morning that a resolution was passed voicing full confidence in the leadership of Captain Hogan and his fine staff and that every man in that room stood and cheered him to the ceiling and I am here this afternoon, having been selected by the other national service officers, to make an amendment to this motion, and I want to ask the delegates to this convention to give a full and complete expression of confidence to Capt. Cicero F. Hogan and Chester Cash and the complete staff of the Washington office who represents all of us. I thank you.

Comrade KENNETH R. McMURRY (Chapter No. 1, Houston, Tex.). Second.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON. I will accept the amendment to my motion.

Comrade KNOX HOLLEY (Chapter No. 43, Shelbyville, Tenn.). I would like to add one thing to the beautiful oratory. If Mr. Hogan should enter the cuss words into this report, as chaplain of that fair State of Tennessee I would like to and I would feel honored to pray for him if he uttered words so desired.

(The convention rose to applaud Captain Hogan, and the motion was carried unanimously.)

First Junior Vice Commander Hietala. At this time, I know the day is drawing to a close fast but we have two more reports and at the time I would like to call on John Burris, our director of employment, for his annual report to the convention. John Burris.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF JOHN W. BURRIS, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF EMPLOYMENT

National Director of Employment BURRIS. National Commander Burke and delegates to the 1956 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, it is rather difficult to realize that another year has passed since we made our last report of our stewardship. As we grow older, we become increasingly conscious of the old adage, "tempus fugit." You younger comrades perhaps feel that the years go by slowly, but a few years from now you will feel like your national director of employment.

But there is one group, regardless of age, for whom time always seems to stand still—the unemployed. If only those of us who are employed would try to realize what it is like to be able and willing to work and not procure it, we would offer some suggestions to help solve some of the many problems of these unemployed disabled veterans, thus fulfilling one of the basic aims and obligations which each of us took when we became members of the DAV.

Compensation is very important, but more than anything else, the disabled veteran wants a job—one that he, although handicapped, can qualify for, and one that has a future.

It is of course a satisfaction to realize that we have enjoyed another year of reasonably full employment throughout the Nation, and that perhaps is one of the reasons why more local chapters have not followed our advice and appointed chapter employment officers, sending us their names and mailing addresses to our Washington headquarters and to your department employment officers. It was reassuring to

note that all departments appointed such officers this past year, and we take this opportunity to thank each and every one of them who submitted to us a report of their accomplishments.

When we have knowledge that a disabled veteran is unemployed our first act should be to see that he is properly registered for work with the nearest State employment service office. He should take with him proof of his military service and his claim number, as it is often necessary to get a physical-capacity appraisal from the Veterans' Administration before referral to a job is made. Now, it is not enough just to register, the card should be kept active until a job is secured. This means a visit at least every 30 days to his local employment office to insure that the card remains in the active file.

You may wonder why the help of the DAV is necessary in view of the many and varied services provided veterans. Each and every employed disabled veteran can, and should be, an employment representative for every unemployed member. In your own place of employment you will hear of job openings that could be filled by disabled veterans. Bring this information to the attention of the local veterans' employment representative. He will make contact with the employer and refer to him disabled veterans who meet the skills required for the job, and who are physically able to do the work.

We have tried in every conceivable way during the past year to inform the general public and particularly the unemployed disabled veteran, that the DAV does not maintain a job placement service but that we work very closely with the United States and State employment services and the various veterans' Federal employment representatives in the 11 United States civil service regions. Unfortunately, there have been some TV and radio spot announcements carried over some stations in the country that infer, or at least give the false impression, that the DAV does maintain such a placement service. We sincerely hope that each of you will make every effort to correct such misinformation should you ever hear such announcements made on any radio or TV program. Such misinformation, in far too many instances, does more harm than good and is a hindrance in signing up the disabled veteran as a member of the DAV after he lands a job.

We take this opportunity to acknowledge and express our most sincere appreciation to another fine national commander, Joseph F. Burke, who has given the employment division his wholehearted cooperation during the past year. He has fully demonstrated that he is as much interested in our employment program as was his distinguished predecessor, Maj. Gen. Melvin J. Maas.

Perhaps most of you have already read in a recent issue of the DAV Semimonthly the story of the fight which Commander Burke had with the Navy Department as a result of its nationwide action in downgrading scores of civilian disabled veteran employees at various naval air stations precisely because of their service-connected disabilities, as was clearly stated in the notices received by those so affected. The commander lost no time in filing a protest with the White House and certain key Members of the Congress, after which several meetings were held with high Navy officials. We were successful in getting the Navy to stop the downgradings pending further study of the situation, and finally we were advised, in writing, that the entire program had been scrapped and that those so downgraded

would be promoted. We hope that this circumstance will tend to deter other Federal agencies from embarking on a similar program in the future.

In fact the Air Force has recently announced a new Air Reserve technician plan that will vitally affect both its military and civilian employees at many of its installations, but we have been assured by both the Air Force and the United States Civil Service Commission that those employees who decline or who are not eligible for Reserve membership will be reassigned at the same or higher grade to non-Air Force Reserve technician position in the same geographic area as jobs become available to which they may be moved with (1) no reductions in force; (2) no demotions; (3) no required transfers to other geographic areas.

Federal employees whose Classification Act jobs are downgraded through no fault of their own after 2 years of satisfactory service in the job may now appeal to the Civil Service Commission if their agency rules they are not eligible for the salary retention benefits of Public Law 594 and reduces their pay rate. This does not apply, however, to blue-collar wage-board employees, and the latter were the ones who were affected in the Navy action. Legislation is pending that would correct such a situation, if enacted.

With regard to Federal employment, we are happy to report more progress in accordance with statistics recently issued by the Civil Service Commission as of December 31, 1956. This is the first count of veterans since 1954. During the intervening years, the number of veterans has increased by more than 100,000, while nonveterans have decreased by more than 60,000.

As of December 31, 1956, Uncle Sam had 2,404,045 employees, 1,204,950 of whom had veteran preference, or 51 percent. Of these, 219,252 disabled veterans or 18 percent were employed, and 20,635 wives, widows, and mothers or 2 percent, all of whom enjoy 10-point preference. Of the 2,404,045 employees men numbered 1,828,133; of whom 1,157,832 or 64 percent are veterans, and women numbered 575,912, of whom 47,118 or 8 percent are veterans. It has been conservatively estimated that approximately 18 percent of our veteran population have disabilities, though in many instances not presently compensable, so we feel that we have been getting a better "shake" in Federal employment in the past 2 years.

On many occasions we have received complaints from disabled veteran Federal employees that they are not given proper recognition in the way of promotions. The latest statistics show that veterans, as a whole, were promoted at a higher rate than nonveterans, the veteran promotion rate being 23 per thousand employees, and the non-veteran rate being 20 per thousand employees.

Many of you may wonder why we devote so much of this report to the subject of Federal employment. Well, when we consider that we have 219,252 disabled veterans employed by Uncle Sam as of December 31 last year, and we can boast of a paidup membership of slightly less than 200,000 this fiscal year, you can readily understand why. What a fertile field for new membership. The DAV can point with pride to the efforts which have been put forth to not only enact the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, but to preserve, protect, and defend the best interests of such disabled veteran employees, and there just isn't any good reason under the sun

all of these eligibles should not be fully informed of these facts the growing need for them to stop being "free riders" and get in pitch in the months ahead.

Once again we express our deep appreciation to our national commander and our national adjutant for making it possible for us to attend the annual Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies, which held another most interesting and profitable meeting in Los Angeles last October. If from only the standpoint of better public relations, we feel that it is highly desirable that we meet with these leaders in employment security once each year to discuss mutual problems and get better acquainted. We have enjoyed another year of candid cooperation with the veterans' committee of the interstate conference and sat in on some interesting meetings of that committee in Washington early this spring. We appreciate very much the fine advice and counsel which is always offered by Comrade Marion Wilkerson, a member of that committee, who for many years has attended national conventions and worked closely with our committee on employment and civil service.

We also wish to thank the national commander and national adjutant for permitting us to attend a national conference of veterans' employment representatives in Detroit last April. It is always profitable to attend such conferences and become better acquainted with these veteran VER's, on whom we depend day in and day out to assist us in caring for our hard-to-place disabled veterans who appeal to Washington for such assistance. We thank every one of them for their fine cooperation this past year. This goes for Ed Omohundro, Chief of the Detroit office, and his able assistants in the Washington office, including Elmer Jebo.

When we mention the Veterans' Employment Service we are reminded of the continued splendid cooperation, advice and counsel which we received the past year from Bruce Stubblefield, Chief of the Veterans' Federal Counseling Service Staff of the United States Civil Service Commission, his able assistants in central office and the various regional offices, and the various veterans' Federal employment representatives in all of the regional offices.

The same thing is true insofar as Robert K. Salyers, Director of the Bureau of Veterans' Reemployment Rights, his central office staff and various field representatives is concerned.

We continue to work very closely with the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped and particularly its Disabled Veterans Subcommittee. We were happy to note that the committee has suggested that the Governor's committees in the various States establish such disabled veteran subcommittees. The annual essay contest among the Nation's high-school pupils in the 9th and 12th grades was bigger and better than ever this year and, once again, we feel that the small amount of money expended each year to make this contest possible is worth many times its monetary value in focusing the attention of not only such contest participants, but their teachers and parents, on the employment problem of our physically handicapped. We are pleased to note that more and more State departments are sponsoring such contests each year. We also again acknowledge, with many thanks, the contribution of the DAV Service Foundation in making possible the distribution of calendar cards to the Nation's employers calling attention to the advisability of em-

playing disabled veterans. This is also true with regard to the blotters that were again distributed through the Veterans' Employment Service, for which we continue to be grateful.

No doubt many of you have had an opportunity to read a copy of a resolution that was adopted by the President's Committee recently that stated clearly they have no connection whatsoever with the so-called National Association of Veterans' Employment Councils nor do they endorse such organization. This is the outfit that has been sending out thousands of unordered ball point pens and copies of the Lord's Prayer throughout the country, purportedly for the purpose of promoting the employment of disabled veterans through NAVEC. We have asked our department and chapter employment officers and the State veterans' employment representatives to report to us any specific instances where disabled veterans have secured gainful employment through NAVEC other than those whom they employed within the outfit to mail out these pens, but to date the response has been negligible. We will greatly appreciate it if any member of the DAV has such knowledge, now or in the future, that he promptly notify the Washington headquarters. We hope that this convention will adopt a resolution making it crystal clear to the American public that this outfit has no connection whatsoever with the DAV nor do we endorse it.

While thus far we have been unsuccessful in getting affirmative legislative action on several pieces of legislation that were introduced as a result of mandates adopted by our 1956 national convention, we are pleased to report that up to this time no legislation has been enacted that would weaken the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended; however, we certainly cannot be lulled to sleep by this fact, as there is a bill pending at this time, S. 2291, designed to implement the recommendations of the Hoover Commission that would drastically amend the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 as amended and, while some of the proposals might be considered as desirable insofar as the compensable disabled veteran is concerned, the operation of such a law would, in our opinion, tend to make it more difficult for a disabled veteran to get Federal employment in the first place and would drastically affect the nondisabled veteran. Therefore, in accordance with our long existing mandate, we are forced to oppose enactment of S. 2291.

You will recall the many efforts which the DAV put forth, after the cessation of hostilities in Korea, to have issued an Executive order which would once again, as was the case after World War II, give the compensable disabled veteran Federal employee the right to secure permanent status in his job after one year of satisfactory probationary service after having been appointed from an eligible register. This was ultimately accomplished by the issuance of Executive Order 10577, but the cutoff date of December 31, 1957, was set for this provision to expire. Realizing that there are still thousands of disabled Korean veterans still in schools and on-the-job training, many of whom will want to secure Federal employment, on May 2, 1957, we requested the Civil Service Commission to secure for us an extension of this order for an additional period of at least 2 or 3 years. This request is presently under consideration. Legislation is also pending that would amend the Veterans' Preference Act to establish this as Federal policy for all time to come.

With regard to those ex-service men and women who entered the Armed Forces after January 31, 1955, and who subsequently incurred service-connected disabilities, we feel that preferential treatment in employment should be extended by the United States—State Employment Service, as well as an extension of Public Law 894 rehabilitation benefits to these ex-service people. We hope such resolutions will be favorably considered by this convention.

As in past years, the DAV has put forth every effort to see that adequate appropriations are provided for the Veterans' Employment Service, the Bureau of Employment Security, the Bureau of Veterans' Reemployment Rights, the United States Civil Service Commission and its Veterans' Federal Counseling Service staff. This is not always an easy task in these days of economizing on the Federal scene.

We again thank each and every national service officer for the efforts that they have put forth this past year to assist us in our employment program, especially those who have, on the local and regional levels, so ably handled appeals under the provisions of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended. The importance of the proper handling of such appeals in the various civil-service regions cannot be over-emphasized because it is on that level, under existing regulations, where the oral hearings are conducted, and when the case has been well handled on that level it is much easier to get a favorable decision on the Washington level. We are deeply appreciative as we know full well that many of our offices are understaffed these days and it is very difficult, at times, for the national service officer to find sufficient time to handle civil-service appeals.

As was pointed out by Comrade Chester A. Cash, our able assistant national director of claims, in his annual report last year, we feel that due to our limited staff it is advisable to not accept claims filed with the Bureau of Employees' Compensation because of alleged personal injury on the job as a Federal civilian employee. This does not apply, of course, in the case of widows of reservists killed in action who are covered by BEC. Such appeals are handled through the director of claims.

We cannot close without expressing to Capt. Cicero F. Hogan and each and every one of his able assistants, as well as to Maj. Omer W. Clark and his splendid assistant, Elmer M. Freudenberger, to Vidian D. Corbly, our national adjutant, and his Cincinnati headquarters staff, and our faithful secretary, Miss Cecilia Brennan, our deep appreciation for their fine cooperation and support this past year, and to cores of other comrades in the ranks who have tried to encourage us in the dark days through which we are passing.

We are faced with many problems these days, have so many reasons to be discouraged, but many of our comrades have faced some deadly enemies on the field of battle and elsewhere over the years, and we hope we still have a little fight left to carry on and to retire to private life every politician who is not willing to preserve our hard-earned rights and benefits.

We regret that it has been necessary to make such a long report this time, but we felt that it was our duty to call these important matters to our attention.

As Dr. Billy Graham, our great 20th century evangelist, has aptly said, in paying tribute to our disabled veterans last Memorial Day, we who have profited so greatly by their sacrifice must not forget the

debt we owe these noble men who bear wounds that well might have been our own." May God bless you all.

First JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER HIETALA. At this time the Chair will entertain a motion to accept and refer to the proper committee the report of John Burris, director of employment.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON. Comrade commander, we are privileged to hear an outstanding report from Burris and we love him and he mentioend men like Omohundro and men like him, under him like we have in Texas, of Kehoe (?) and Stanley Spain (?), I move this report be accepted and referred to the respective convention committees.

Comrade JESSE CARL HALL (Chapter No. 1, Alabama). Second the motion.

First JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER HIETALA. Any discussion? All those in favor?

Those opposed?

So carried.

I will call on our national adjutant for the purpose of an announcement.

National ADJUTANT CORBLY. We still have not received the caucus reports of districts Nos. 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 14.

Those that are not in, please get them to our office, or Miss McGuire or myself.

The registration as of 15 minutes ago, is 998. It appears in the corridors and the convention that we have many more people than that here so those of you who have not registered, we suggest that you register. This is quite a bit below a Monday afternoon normally.

Frank Williams would like to tell you about the entertainment program for the rest of the day. Chairman Frank Williams.

Convention Chairman WILLIAMS. Comrades, the daylight hours are coming to a close, of course, with our daylight savings about 8 o'clock. However, there is an evening program that is very important to this convention. One that, of course, takes on a sacred aspect. It is the memorial service to our deceased comrades. Very many hours have been spent to put this together. We have prayed over it, we wanted to show that the delegates will give it the reverence that it requires. It is in this room, and the participants, of course, will be the clergy, along with our National Chaplain.

Your friends, citizens of Buffalo, are invited to our memorial service, outsiders that are not members of our organization. There will be some of them here, of course, but very emphatically do I say that you can invite your friends to come in with you on that occasion.

I think that takes care of the announcements for today. Thank you very much, Comrade.

National Adjutant CORBLY. When we recess we will meet in this room tomorrow morning at 9:30. And the first order of business will be the report of Major Clark, chairman of the legislative division of our efforts, followed by a report of the national finance committee given by chairman Buono of New York.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. We will have the awarding of prizes. Paddy Driscoll, Blind Veterans Chapter, will draw the names out of the box.

(The prize drawing was made.)

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. We won't retire the colors. We will have the closing prayer and then we will recess until tomorrow morning at 9:30. National Chaplain.



National Chaplain PICKETT. I will ask the Tennessee Department Chaplain HOLLEY to pronounce the benediction.

Rev. KNOX HOLLEY (Tennessee). Our most omnipotent heavenly Father, creator of the universe, giver of all good things, we again humbly come to Thee thanking Thee for the fine fellowship, the business that we have had here today. We commit these things unto Thy hands. We thank Thee for the goodness Thou hast shown us in days gone by, and Lord, we do ask that Thou will be with us as we depart here tonight. Watch over us, care for us, and may Thy abiding love be in our hearts at all times. Amen.

(Whereupon, at 5:30 p. m., the convention was recessed until 9:30 a. m. the following day.)

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

Monday Evening, August 19, 1957

The memorial service of the 36th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans was held in the grand ballroom, Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., at 8:30 p. m., Monday, August 19, 1957. Assistant National Adjutant FEIGHNER called the service to order.

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGHNER. Ladies and gentlemen, delegates to the 36th national convention; our 36th annual national memorial service, "The Lost Chord," by Proctor and Sullivan, New York Naval Base Band, Warrant Officer D. W. Stauffer, directing.

(The Lost Chord.)

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGHNER. We, the living disabled American veterans, are privileged to come here tonight to pay our most reverent respects and to honor our dead.

In this memorial service of the 36th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans on August 19, 1957, in the city of Buffalo, N. Y., particularly we wish to remember those of our comrades who were called to the great beyond since we last met.

Invocation by Rabbi Harry Bevis, Chaplain, United States Veterans' Administration Hospital, Buffalo.

Rabbi HARRY BEVIS. Almighty God, Eternal Ruler of the universe, Thou art revealed in the heart of man and in nature. Thou art also manifest in the lives of great men and in the righteousness of nations. Keep our beloved land forever righteous and just, strengthen the bonds of friendship and fellowship among all the inhabitants of our land. Plant virtue in every soul and may Thy name hallow every home and every heart.

Bless those who are gathered here this day in the interests and for the welfare of our beloved Nation, and in the honored memory of those who are no longer with us. Endow them with courage and dignity to fulfill their responsibility with justice and dignity. They are intimately acquainted with the destruction and ravages that follow all wars. Inspire them to guide our country to remain strong and just and free so that the call to war and the clash of arms shall not resound in our land. And during their deliberations here we pray Thee, O God, in the words of Thy prophet Isaiah, may the spirit of the Lord rest upon them; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and might; the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. Amen.

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGHNER. The Lord's Prayer; Miss Florence Metzler, soloist; Miss Mary Mahoney, accompanist.

(The Lord's Prayer.)

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGHNER. The address, Rev. Rudolph Liesinger, Chaplain, United States Veterans' Administration Hospital, Buffalo.

Rev. RUDOLPH LIESINGER. As we members of the Disabled American Veterans assemble here tonight in reverence to honor our dead, let each of us be ever conscious of this fact that in the destinies of men, the silhouettes of our dead go marching on. Because of them our lives are free. Because of them our Nation lives. It is therefore, in my mind, decent and in order that we assemble here, members of many faiths, to take time out of our busy lives to honor the memory of our war dead and those who have advanced from this life to a more abundant life during the past year. And to do this not as individuals in our own particular way but to do it corporately and I might say we can thank Almighty God that this Nation has been preserved that we do have the right to so assemble.

At this moment, a solemn moment, where those who have saved a country and keep alive in their minds their comrades, many minds recall their friends and their loved ones, that eternal question, "Why?" Again that thought is repeated continually. Our faith is repeatedly put to the test by this question, "Why?" As we wonder over the question of "Why?", we know that it is no mystery to us. We know that every child that passes through the dark of birth must eventually make an exit through the portal called death. The date and the hour remain unknown.

Now this knowledge which many people, of course, like to put way into the background, is a reality, and personally, I like to think of it as the one supreme reality of life. It is not distressing, it is not a morbid thought, and most certainly it should not be terrifying to a healthy mind. We, of necessity, must accept it as simply one of the confining limits in which we must live this part of our eternal life, the temporal life being but a fraction of the eternal.

Again, at this point there are many people who would have you believe that the eternal sphere of life begins when this temporal life ends, but the truth most certainly is that at this very moment, as from the moment of birth, we are living in the eternal.

Again I like to think that and especially in caring for the dying and their loved ones as we look upon birth and death, they have this in common, they are alike, they are but changes in our mode of living and death, we believe, is the means, the only way by which we gain an entrance into a fuller, a more abundant life that is far greater in all respects than anything we have ever known here on earth. But even with this faith and even with this knowledge we sorrow. And we sorrow because of our personal loss, the loss of our loved ones, of our comrades and of our friends. We sorrow but we do not grieve for St. Paul said: "For by faith we know with certainty that our times are in God's hands and as a father loveth a child so God loves us."

It has been well said that God has placed two wonderful lamps in the hands of man. One is the lamp of hope, which is to lighten our way through the uncertain future of life. And the other lamp that God has given is the lamp of memory which leads us back through the past to scenes and experiences of yesterday. It is by the use of this

second lamp tonight, this lamp of memory, we again can look into the faces of those whom we have loved and have lost but for a little while. Indeed, these have been great gifts that God has given to man. We are rich in their possessions and I dare say that life without either one of them would have but little meaning.

Today in this modern world of ours catch phrases are used not only in selling cigarettes as well as in other things commercial, but often we hear the words of the play, Julius Caesar, act 3, scene 2, where Shakespeare put into the mouth of Mark Anthony when he wrote these lines for his speech over the mutilated body of Julius Caesar: "The evil men do lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones." Of course, the evil does live after a man, but the good is not buried nor is it forgotten. As I grow older by the grace of God in some respects I grow wiser. I know that nothing is more certain than the influence of a good and a noble person. It is the memory of that goodness that inspires the living, as the British say, to carry on and to follow in their steps in the periods of temptation, and their example gives us strength to withstand the evil. In periods of doubt their memory gives us assurance, in time of sorrow they give us comfort, and they give us guidance for they first have gone that way.

It is through the example of others that heroes are born. So I say we do not grieve but we sorrow knowing well that death is not the end but the beginning, knowing it is not to be a tragedy but a reality and a victory. May the memory of our dead, our war dead, those who were members of this organization who have passed away in the past year, each and every one of them, serve to remind us of that great truth that worthwhile life here and now depends on one thing, it depends on a daring trust in God. And having come to know that great truth, let us also know that truth which follows, that in the life to come, the life to come depends on nothing else than a daring trust in God.

In closing, a great hymn comes to mind which I believe will aid each of us in comprehending the passage of life through death.

God of the living in whose eyes  
Unveiled Thy whole creation lies,  
All souls are Thine. We must not say  
That those are dead who pass away.  
From this our world of care set free  
We know them living unto Thee.

Released from earthly toil and strife  
With Thee is hidden still their life.  
Thine are their thoughts, their works, their powers  
All Thine. And yet most truly ours.  
For well we know wher'er they be,  
Our dead are living unto Thee.

Not spilt like water on the ground  
Not wrapped in dreamless sleep profound,  
Not wandering in unknown despair  
Beyond Thy voice, Thine arm, Thy care.  
Not left to lie like a fallen tree  
Not dead, but living unto Thee.

O breather into man of breath,  
O holder of the keys of death,  
O giver of the life within,  
Save us from death, the death of sin.  
The body, soul and spirit be,  
Forever living unto Thee. Amen.

("Panis Angelicus" by Cesar Franck; United States Naval Base Band, New York, Warrant Officer D. W. Stauffer directing.)

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGHNER. In the tableau will be the national commander of the Auxiliary, the national commander of the DAV, the 14 district committeemen, the 14 district committeewomen, Staff Sergeant Becker and Sergeant Sweet from the United States Marines.

(As the roll of districts was called, the national executive committeemen of the Disabled American Veterans, and the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, placed a flower in a vase in memory of deceased comrades.)

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGHNER. Benediction by Rev. Joseph C. Pickett, national chaplain, Disabled American Veterans.

National Chaplain PICKETT. O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the dizzy world is hushed, until the fever of life is over, until the shadows lengthen and our work on earth is done. In Thy great mercy grant us safe lodging, holy rest, and peace at last through Christ, our Lord and Saviour in Whose name we pray. Amen.

(Taps, by Willard Landscheft, national convention bugler, Greater Buffalo chapter No. 1, N. Y., Disabled American Veterans.)

#### TUESDAY MORNING SESSION

August 20, 1957

The second business session of the 36th national convention of the Disabled American Veterans was held in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., at 9:30 a. m. Tuesday, August 20, 1957.

National Commander BURKE. Will the officer of the day form the color guard in the rear of the room?

I am now going to make a statement of earth-shaking importance. Good morning.

Officer of the day, advance the colors.

(Colors were posted.)

National Commander BURKE. Officer of the day, retire the color guard.

(Color guard retired.)

National Commander BURKE. The chaplain will lead us in divine guidance and at the same time may be pray for the soul of Earl Spencer, of Long Beach, who passed away last night.

National Chaplain PICKETT. O Lord, in Whom we live and move and have our being, in whose hands are the souls of the living and the dead, we mercifully commend unto Thee the soul of our departed comrade, asking Thy divine strength and blessings upon his bereaved family and friends. Comfort and guide us only as Thou can as our Father who doeth all things well.

Make us glad according to the years of our affliction, restoring unto us our wasted days. Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it, through Christ our Lord we pray in whom our labor is not in vain according to Thy promise. Amen.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair wishes to point out that having been a campaigner for national office for 5 years, he appreciates the need for politicking, but will J. C. Broome get that sixth

district caucus going and send in their committeemen, because we can't get the convention going until we get it, and we have a very important meeting of the rehabilitation committee as soon as we have all those names.

I had just as bad a night last night as the delegates did. I don't want too much noise in the background because it affects my hearing. Besides, we have some very important people on this platform this morning that we need to give our careful consideration. Here again to speak for the Veterans' Administration is a very capable individual who, through this past year, although we have not had many private meetings we have talked on the phone, but to the best of his ability and facetiously, to the limitations of the policy of the Veterans' Administration, Dr. Middleton has tried to do a good job for the disabled veteran. I am sure that you will appreciate as well as I, that Dr. Middleton comes here this morning to talk about his specific branch of the Veterans' Administration which is the medical branch, so it gives me a great deal of pleasure to present to this convention the Chief Medical Director of the Veterans' Administration, Dr. W. S. Middleton.

Dr. W. S. MIDDLETON (Chief Medical Director, Veterans' Administration). Commander Burke, Disabled American Veterans, and friends, it is indeed a privilege to come before you this morning and to give you the message of veteran medicine as practiced through the direction of the Department of Medicine and Surgery. As a matter of fact, I had a preview of what was going to happen here because I did come up by plane last evening delayed until 10:30, but had made connection from a holiday on the west coast to enable me to make this particular engagement. En route Mrs. Middleton turned on the radio. Commander Burke was having an interview as we came across South Dakota. In the course of that interview—by the way, he made a very good case for your particular organization—he cited the fact that there were 200,000 members, 200,000 disabled American veterans belonging to this particular organization. Of course, it represents a broad segment but not as large a segment of the disabled veterans as we should like to see. But what a force in American life, what a force in the interests of the disabled American veteran 200,000 members of this organization may be.

A vacation or holiday for the Chief Medical Director may have somewhat of the aspect of the busman's holiday. As a matter of fact, when I laid out the itinerary from Washington, it was to visit certain outlying hospital installations. I visited 11. Nine of these were so-called peripheral or isolated stations. Ladies and gentlemen, the isolated stations are isolated only geographically. So far as my thinking is concerned, they are an integral part and a very important element in the total program. But we started in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., then to Fort Mead, S. Dak., Hot Springs, S. Dak., Sheridan, Wyo., and then for a breathing space went through the Grand Tetons and out to the west coast.

On the west coast, visited Portland, Oreg.; Vancouver, Wash.; and Seattle, Spokane, Wash.; then Fort Harrison in Montana, Boise—pardon me, en route simply looked over Fort Harrison, Mont., and Miles City, Mont.

I speak of the peripheral hospitals because it is an important part of our function to see that the quality of medical care is maintained

at the highest level in all stations. A certain philosophy would have satellite hospitals. In my judgment a satellite hospital is to bespeak a downgrading in staffing and downgrading in medical care. It is perfectly true we cannot staff all our hospitals in all specialists but these peripheral hospitals, to the everlasting credit of my predecessors and my associates presently are well staffed in the main. There are certain points of weakness that we would strengthen but in any event there is no design on our part to have parent hospitals and satellites that would have a subsidiary place in our total planning.

In the first place the peripheral hospital has a mission, geographically, to a segment of the veterans that will not be reached in medical centers and accordingly, it will be protected and preserved.

In the second place, a pride. I recall vividly coming back to the Pacific Conference in Washington the last of July 1945, and a Pacific Conference that was not too pacific, I might say, and having one of the high officers and certain general officers of the Army say, "Middleton, what in the—is wrong in the European theater?"

"What do you mean, 'What is wrong'?" "We have fine medicals but everyone that comes from there says his hospital is the best hospital, his company is the best company, his platoon, his squadron is the best squad. What do you mean by it?"

I said, "If they didn't think they are the best they wouldn't be the best."

And he said, "You are just as bad about it as they are."

I am just as bad about good medicine in our hospitals as any member of the staff in those hospitals. I might say that the criticism that has been directed toward the veteran hospital arouses a certain resistance on my part, because I was a dean for many years, dean of medicine, University of Wisconsin Medical School. In that particular connection I am reminded of the comment of President Frank when I accepted his challenge. He said, "Now, Bill, do you know what is a dean?"

I said, "I am sorry. I have been trying to think for 3 days what a dean is."

He says, "A dean is a chap who is too dumb to teach and too bright to be president."

Actually, from those years of experience as dean I know the problems of administration within the medical school. I know that this particular design of dean's committee affiliation has been a godsend to the American veteran by reason of the fact that we have at first-hand the counsel and advice of the leaders of American medicine in all of the hospitals that are adjacent to the medical centers.

In the total, friends, there are some 84 of our hospitals who profit, and I mean profit medically speaking in the affiliation with dean's committees with certainly two medical schools. At this present moment there are 79,000 veterans in hospitals receiving better care by reason of this association.

There will have been aroused in your minds some question as to the teaching and research programs. May I say that in this particular respect of the lifeblood in the strengthening of staff, younger staff members, upcoming staff members has been a byproduct of this particular relationship.

Paul Magnuson, the chief medical director before Admiral Boone had this particular vision and it has carried into the medical program

a life stream that could not be duplicated by money or other means.

Research programs, and you will admit that we have a responsibility for advancing the frontiers of medicine, and without the opportunities that are afforded us and in fact the responsibilities that come from the care of the sick or disabled American veteran, we would not see the quality of care given the individual patient and I speak of individual patients because when I go into a hospital, friends, I have been in over 145 of our 173 hospitals, I do not go in with white gloves and look for dust. I go in with a stethoscope and listen to patients. My old chief, General Hawley, used to say that the only excuse for the existence of a hospital, and certainly the only excuse for a department of medicine and surgery in the Veterans' Administration, is the care of the sick and disabled veteran. I know of no better way to judge of the quality of that care than by going at firsthand to the bedside of the sick and disabled veteran, reviewing his case record, going over him carefully, physically, and determining for myself at firsthand just what is going on in that particular service. You cannot do that from the rarified atmosphere of central office and I assure you I have no Potomac fever. As a matter of fact, friends, I have said that in an almost unconscious moment that I could smell a good hospital as soon as I came in the front door and I can smell a poor hospital at a much longer distance away.

You veterans may well be proud of the services rendered your associates in our hospitals. I know there is good medicine abroad and if there is any question in your mind I want to know it firsthand. I go to fires at the slightest provocation and there is no fire too small for me to attend.

In this respect I will particularly direct your attention to one problem that confronts all of us and I am not speaking personally now because I feel very young at heart this morning. The aging population is one that is particularly concerning medicine at large in this and all countries enlightened to advances in scientific thinking. We have in our hospital system, 9,600 veterans who may be termed long-term veterans. You may, in the service organization of your group and among the service workers and rehabilitation committeemen, realize that I have resisted the term "intermediate care." Gentlemen, there is no intermediate care for an American veteran. I believe in high quality care and I would never countenance the setting up of separate hospitals for so-called long-term patients.

Now just what is a long-term patient? Long-term patients are patients who apparently have derived maximum benefit and are not susceptible of home or community care. There is a policy that we will defend to the last ditch that no patient or veteran will be discharged from our hospitals who does not have provisions in the home or community for his care. This is not only a humane principle but it is also a policy to which the American public subscribes completely.

In this relation then, 9,600 veterans either patients or members in domiciliaries have come to the point where there is need for continuing medical or nursing care and not a prospect very bright for discharge. Every force within the Veterans' Administration has been directed to a study of this problem. In the first place we have said that we will not have long-term hospitals. There was an experience at Fort Thomas in this direction which failed miserably.

In the first place your staff falls off and as soon as staffing declines then the care of the veteran deteriorates. We shall not countenance this particular position. Accordingly, 9,600 veterans scattered among our 173 hospitals, 121,000 beds would give something in the neighborhood of 8 percent. Now that figure will increase with the advancing years and accordingly it will mean that we shall have a future which there will be an increasing problem in the care of long-term patients derived largely from the aging population. I do not think this is a problem apart from the American veteran. It affects the entire population of this country. We just happen to be a segment of that particular group. But with the individual hospital will be based the responsibility of designing the method of care. It may mean segmentation of these patients into separate wards or a separate building. Elsewhere it may mean an integration within the actual medical service. In all cases the patient will have complete medical care.

The chance of rehabilitation has been too optimistically viewed certain of our staff. When one of our information bulletins came out for October with 50 percent in a given hospital in Florida, long-term patients rehabilitated, I said, "Don't you see what you are asking for?" And this particular representative said, "Why no, I think this is a very good figure."

I said, "It is entirely too optimistic. I am told the population is moving in three directions: Florida, Texas, and California, and do not want all our veterans in that particular area and what is more 50 percent is entirely too rosy a figure." So that they reduced certain other figures and brought it down very perceptibly to about 25 percent. Again, friends, this is entirely too high. If in these long-term patients we have rehabilitation and resocialization so that they merely return to home and society of 5 to 8 percent, it will be a good figure. So that we will do our level best. There is every effort made in our committees for discharge and our programs of activities with the domiciliaries and these are the forgotten veterans, do not overlook and in our hospitals to see that every agency—now I start with medical care, psychiatric care, psychological care, come to the physical methods that are available. Occupation, physical therapy, exercise therapy, everything that can be done to motivate these veterans that they will wish to get back into society and into their proper channels of normal living.

A hospital is not the normal existence of any of us. And accordingly, we must bring into this picture the social forces. The social forces are exceedingly important in bridging the gap, between protective hospital or domiciliary and society.

I am reminded of the fact that they have made certain strides in Great Britain, the Scandinavian countries. In 1954 I looked over the Scandinavian picture and last year over the British picture and I am convinced they have certain elements in the cottage-type of care the freedom of movement between the hospital and the home, that we somewhat lack; that they have definite designs for crafts that are not well developed in this country; on the small home or the cottage type of plan.

We return to the flexibility. May I say that one of my particular objectives in the early future is to see a greater flexibility of movement in and out of our hospitals. For example, in one of these B



ish hospitals while I was talking to the manager, a woman came in and said, "We are going for a holiday at Brighton. We will be gone for a fortnight and we wonder whether 'Pop' may come in for that two weeks' time."

Immediately the manager said, "Yes, by all means." And turned to me as she went out and said, "They will be the first to request the return of the father to the home when they come back from their holiday."

Now that movement can only be developed by a more flexible plan than we have in our admission policy. But look on this, friends, as a direction of growth and it is my firm conviction that by reason of the responsibility placed in our hands we have an opportunity for leadership in American medicine that is unequalled in this particular area just as it was in the case of the tuberculosis veteran and in the case of the neuropsychiatric veteran. We are not going to fumble this particular opportunity, I assure you.

It brings to each and everyone of you a personal responsibility and I would be remiss if I did not call your attention to the tremendously fine effort of the volunteer service within the Veterans' Administration. We have a ratio that is entirely too far on the feminine side. It is the women of our particular families, it is the devoted wife, devoted sister, daughter, carrying the load that you and I should be carrying in our full share. It is perfectly true that the veterans are exceeding anxious to see these devoted women who give of their services so abundantly, but it is equally true that they miss their comrades in arms who rather sloughed this particular responsibility off on their womenfolk.

May I close by saying that there is a particularly impressive detail of this responsibility that I encounter as I go into our hospitals for the mentally ill. There are literally thousands of veterans who have seen neither family nor friends for 5, 10 and even 20 years. This is a circumstance that should certainly impress itself indelibly upon your thinking and, more important, upon your actions.

It has been a privilege to be with you this morning, and I have opened my heart for this audience. I am very grateful for your support of our program. Thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. Thank you very much, Dr. Middleton.

I am going to put the senior vice commander in the chair in a few moments. I have to go out and get that doughnut.

A person will always take a certain amount of pride, especially when he spells his name with an "E" on the end, of introducing another Irishman although we were both born in this country. We often say the world is made up of two kinds of people. Those who are Irish and those who wish they were. But I have a friend here who, as a man in his own right, his own employment, is a representative of the United States Civil Service. He works here in the second region, but he is more than that. I had the privilege of attending a convention which is probably the most limited group of veterans in the world because of their membership requirement. I'd like to introduce to this convention, and express to him the appreciation for the way his convention received me in Lakeland, Fla., and showed your national commander a wonderful time. I was with some of the greatest heroes that this country has ever known. From the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, Thomas J. Kelly.

(The convention rose to applaud Mr. Kelly.)

National Commander BURKE. Needless to say that is not "Commando" Kelly.

Once upon a time I spoke at a banquet for a department commander of New York. He is a past department commander of New York now. But I had the privilege of saying something which I have meant as regards his person and will always be able to say. One of the kindest, most gentlemanly disabled veterans I ever met is a resident here of the city of Buffalo. I think that if all of us could expose the same exterior to the world that Antoine Kimaid does it would be a better world to live in and I repeat one of the finest gentlemen and disabled veterans that I have ever met. Antoine.

Comrade ANTOINE KIMAID. Thank you very much, Commander Burke. As a Buffalonian I would like to extend my very best wishes and welcome to all the delegates who are attending the national convention here in our beloved city of Buffalo.

My job here at this very minute is to present an award to a very great lady in our midst, a great lady who has done a wonderful job for all veterans in our local veteran hospitals and in the city of Buffalo.

Mrs. Dunn, once again it is my great pleasure to present to you an award from the Disabled American Veteran organization. Four years ago, as the State Commander of the Department of New York, I presented you an award from our station and today, 4 years later, it is my great privilege and an honor to present you an award from the national organization of the DAV. We, in Buffalo, and the State of New York, know the great work that Mrs. Dunn has done for the veterans in our hospitals. Those of you who come from far and wide will witness a show on Friday evening at 8:30 in this ballroom, a show of "Stars of Tomorrow" and you will know that Mrs. Dunn has always performed a duty and a wonderful job for disabled American veterans in our city.

Mrs. GRACE DUNN. Thank you very, very much, Commander Kimaid, and Commander Burke, and Disabled American Veterans. I feel very humble, very grateful. I shall continue just as long as I am able, to bring entertainment to both the hospitals and the Army camps about our community. So without further ado I shall say thank you so very, very much for this great honor. I shall cherish it forever. Thank you very much.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair is going to yield for the purpose of an introduction but he would like to say something about the next speaker. He is from Massachusetts and now working for the Veterans' Administration but you are going to be listening for the next 10 minutes to 2 good Republicans. They are both out of work. At least this Democrat is still at work. Dave Williams.

Fourth Junior Vice Commander DAVID B. WILLIAMS. Thank you, Commander Joe. Distinguished guests, comrades, I approach this duty, a solemn and yet pleasant duty, with mixed emotions. It is in a sense with a great deal of sorrow that I make this next introduction because a year ago at this time I had hoped to present him as the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. But then, again, my sorrow is to a large degree allayed by the fact that the loss to the Commonwealth at least, as I felt, was a gain to the veterans and particularly those concerned with VA insurance.

For many years in Massachusetts, it has been my privilege and pleasure to be intimately associated with the next speaker in the affairs of the Commonwealth of all descriptions and I might say as floor leader of my party and his party, and one of the two major parties, shall we say, in the country, he at all times was more than considerate of the welfare of veterans generally and particularly of our interests and the gain to the country and to us here in the DAV by his ascension, if I may say, to the Directorship of the Division of Insurance in Washington I think will be noted with the passage of time.

I look forward to a pleasant relationship on the part of our overall organization as we have in the past on a personal level and it gives me a great deal of pride and pleasure to present to you the former Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts and the present Director of the Division of Insurance of the Veterans' Administration, Sumner Whittier.

Mr. SUMNER WHITTIER (VA Director of Insurance Division). Dave, Commander Burke, all the very distinguished guests on this platform: There was a professor that was about to take a swim, at least he was in a bathing suit standing by a pool, and just at that point an attractive lady walked by and as she did so she slipped and the camera she was carrying fell into the water. She turned to the professor and said, "Sir, would you mind getting that camera in the pool for me?"

He said, "I would be delighted, but I am a little bit puzzled by one thing. With all these vigorous young men around here why would you ask an old codger like me to go into the pool for your camera?"

She said, "I am in one of your classes in statistics at the University and I never saw anybody who can go down deeper, stay down longer, and come up dryer than you!"

I will express the greetings of the Department of Insurance; I won't go down too deep, stay down too long, and come up too dry. When I came to the Veterans' Administration I discovered there wasn't a single Democrat there. There were only 176,000 people dedicated to the cause of the veterans of this Nation and it is in that spirit that I come to you. I have hardly heard the words mentioned, Dave, since I came to Washington.

It certainly is a great privilege and pleasure for me to be at a DAV convention and incidentally, VA is only DAV backwards, and discover so many close personal friends like Dave, like Caesar Donnaruma, and so many others.

I attended this morning with "Cap" Hogan the service officers meeting and believe me, it was lively. As Dr. Middleton, who is typical of the very dedicated people in VA, said, there are some nearly 200,000 disabled veterans who are members of this organization but there are 1,200,000 disabled veterans in America, roughly. There are a potential of a million others who might well be members of your organization and could they see, as I saw this morning, the aggressiveness, the interest with which your service officers fought the cause of the veterans, fought the cause of all the disabled veterans in America, I am sure they would hasten to join. It has been my very pleasant privilege in Washington to discover the great enthusiasm, the great dedication, the great interest with which your national officers, and may I speak particularly for Bob Dove who is your

national insurance officer, work in the interests of the disabled veterans. They do a fine and an outstanding job.

As an outsider, as someone who is new to the VA, it has been of great interest to me to discover the sense of dedication that the people in the VA have from the very top to the very bottom to work for the veterans of this Nation. Since I have been the Chief Insurance Director I have met many of my old friends who are veterans and talked with them a little bit about insurance and many times I have said, "Have you kept your insurance?" And I have been staggered by the number who have not. May I suggest to you this is a good program. It is a sound program. It is a good insurance policy. Protect, keep it, see that your policies do not lapse. And may I suggest, too, that there is one way you can do that. If you now pay on a monthly basis it certainly would help the Department of Insurance, but in a sense it would protect you, from the possibility of having your policies lapse to change it to a quarterly or a semiannual or even an annual basis.

One other thing. There is one problem that disturbs us very deeply. There are 20,000 World War I veterans holders of USGLI type of insurance who have not converted. If you take the term type insurance it goes up every 5 years. Did you see these steps? Only the early steps are very low and the final steps are extraordinarily high. When a veteran gets to be 60 or 65 or 75 just when he needs his insurance most and when his income is sharply cut by retirement, it is that point that his insurance, if he has the term type, is highest.

For example at the age of 40 if you have the term type you pay \$9, roughly, per thousand. But if you are 70, you pay \$72. If you are 85 you pay \$313, but if you are 90, and we have 1 veteran who is 91 who is now paying per thousand \$652 on his insurance.

Twenty thousand World War I veterans who did not convert.

So that is a problem. But what concerns us even more deeply is that there are 3¼ million veterans who are insured from World War II who have not yet converted and who are going to be faced upon their retirement with this tremendous increase. And so I urge you, if it is financially possible, to convert.

It has been a great delight and a great pleasure for me to have this opportunity to come to this convention. We shall in the future, as I know you have and the VA has in the past, we of the Department of Insurance will work together in a common cause with the veterans of this Nation. As Abraham Lincoln said, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are now in, to bind up the Nation's wounds and to care for many who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan," as we do in insurance, "and to do all within our power to achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace." [Applause.]

Senior Vice Commander Paul Frederick (now presiding). Thank you very much, Mr. Whittier for your words.

At this time the Chair would like to bring to the microphone for the purpose of his annual report, our legislative director, Maj. Omer Clark. I am sure you will find his report quite informative as to his work that has been done on the legislative program this year. He and his assistant, Mr. Freudenberger, have done an excellent job this past year. His work has certainly borne fruit, and I am sure you will find in his report the results of this work of him and his staff.

So at this time I present to you, Maj. Omer Clark, our legislative director.

ANNUAL REPORT OF OMER W. CLARK, DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATION

Director of Legislation CLARK. Commander Burke, officers, delegates, ladies and gentlemen, the national convention of the Disabled American Veterans, held in San Antonio, Tex., in August 1956, adopted 105 resolutions. Accomplishment of the proposals contained in 70 of those resolutions require action by the United States Congress, while the desired results suggested in 35 might be attained by the administrative action of Government agencies.

Immediately after the receipt of the approved resolutions in the Washington office, the work of classifying, indexing, mimeographing, and binding was begun and completed. Conferences were held with Captain Hogan, Mr. Burris, Mr. Cash, and Mr. Freudenberger. It was agreed that Mr. Hogan would contact those agencies which had authority to administratively change the policy, or procedure, so as to accomplish what was intended by the resolutions falling within his field of responsibility. Mr. Burris would follow the same line of approach in the division of employment. Both Captain Hogan and Mr. Burris have followed through on their respective assignments. They have kept the office of legislation informed regarding their programs and their accomplishments. There has been the utmost confidence in each other, and complete cooperation between our respective divisions.

During the months of November and December 1956, we devoted much time to the drafting of bills and the selection of Members of the new Congress to sponsor legislation in which the DAV is interested. The establishment in the minds of the Members of Congress the realization that the DAV has created and maintained an enviable reputation in its efforts to care for the veteran whose disabilities were incurred in the defense of our country is our most important task. We look to you to guard our principles in your home communities. By our combined efforts we should be able to convince the public that our requests are fair and reasonable. This is good public relations.

Attached is a list showing bills, by subject and number, which have been introduced in accordance with your mandates. The following bills have been passed by the House, and/or the House and the Senate.

- H. R. 52 (Compensation increase). Passed House May 13, 1957; reported by Senate Committee on Finance July 18, 1957.
- H. R. 53 (VA codification). Now Public Law 85-56.
- H. R. 71 (Pension, jailed veterans). Now Public Law 85-24.
- H. R. 76 (Statutory awards). Passed House April 1, 1957.
- H. R. 358 (Spanish War widows). Passed House May 6, 1957.
- H. R. 1264 (TB-pension-hospital). Passed House May 6, 1957.
- S. 2080 (State bonus not income). Passed Senate May 8, 1957.
- S. 1971 (Extend V. R. & E. medical course). Passed Senate July 3, 1957.
- H. R. 4602 (Rural G. I. loan bill). Passed House March 25, 1957.
- H. R. 5382 (Survivor benefits). Passed House July 15, 1957.
- H. R. 5807 (Missing Persons Act). Passed House May 6, 1957.
- H. R. 6070 (Appropriations, independent agencies). Now Public Law 85-69.
- H. R. 6191 (Social security offset). Now Public Law 85-109.
- H. R. 6523 (War-risk and detention benefits). Now Public Law 85-71.
- H. R. 6659 (Housing Act of 1957). Now Public Law 85-104.

It was determined that the legislation most needed was an act to increase compensation payments for service-connected disabilities. We prepared a bill which was introduced by Congressman Olin E. Teague of Texas. It was H. R. 51 and, if enacted, it would have authorized an increase in all compensation payments, including statutory awards and dependency payments to those rated less than 50 percent.

The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs voted out H. R. 52, rather than H. R. 51. That action was taken at a time when all Members of the Congress were being deluged with demands from their constituents for a drastic curtailment of Government spending. It was determined that any effort to secure action on our bill, rather than H. R. 52, would be playing into the hands of those opposed to an increase of veterans' benefits and would kill all veterans' legislation during this session of the Congress. All veterans' organizations united in an effort to secure favorable action on H. R. 52. The bill was passed by the House without a dissenting vote on May 13, 1957, and finally passed the Senate.

Your national commander made personal calls on leaders in both the House and the Senate urging favorable action on H. R. 52. Our contacts with the chairman and members of the Senate Finance Committee resulted in favorable action on H. R. 52 by that committee. This represents a real accomplishment in the face of objections from the executive departments. As of this writing the measure is stymied by the debate on civil rights, but the measure has now passed the Senate, it is on the President's desk, it is awaiting signature and we are quite confident that he will approve that bill.

Don't let anyone tell you that the provisions of H. R. 52 could have been broadened, either in committee or on the floor, for that was just not the case and everyone in the know in politically wise Washington must surely be convinced that the service-connected veterans fared well indeed, generally speaking, at the hands of Congress during a nonelection year. The struggles we experienced to push H. R. 52 through are still rather painful but if you will read the copy of the letter attached to each copy of this report, that letter being dated June 27, 1957, from the Director of the Budget to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, Senator Harry F. Byrd, you will get an idea of the pressures brought to bear to vitiate, or head off entirely, the passage of beneficial compensation legislation.

As indicated in my 1956 report, the Bradley Commission recommendations, or at least some of them, are far from dead. Sometimes during this session we even thought we saw them trying to come in the back door. It behooves all of us to be constantly vigilant and to detect, diagnose, and defeat all disruptive moves and unfavorable proposals affecting veterans, their widows and children, whether they be attempted out in the open through a medium of legislation, or by means of administrative operations of one kind or another. The people who would downgrade veterans know some tricks and are adept at using circuitous methods to accomplish their harmful purposes, but we, and you, know many things, too, of defensive nature, and when the occasion warrants I think we veterans' organizations have demonstrated that we can go on the offensive as well.

In that connection, if you will review the record and the report of the proceedings carried in our own newspaper, the Semimonthly, you

Will recall that the DAV led the attack on the Bradley Commission report at the historic series of hearings held by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and that our initial testimony in rebuttal marked the whole campaign that presented a united veterans' organizations front in opposition to the most destructive aims of the Commission.

H. R. 6191 was reported favorably by the House Committee on Ways and Means and it carried a section (sec. 2) enabling veterans between the ages of 50 to 64, inclusive, who are held to be permanently and totally disabled for social security purposes, and who are in receipt of disability compensation from the Veterans' Administration, to receive the full benefits from both sources, if otherwise in order, without offset. This provision does not exclude from offset those veterans receiving pension benefits from the VA, or those granted retirement pay by the service departments. On the passage of H. R. 6191 by the House it went to the Committee on Finance of the Senate where it ran into difficulty. There was some feeling in that committee that such compensation should not be excluded in those cases where the Social Security and VA payments were for the same disability and the addition had not been aggravated by covered employment. Finally, the committee reported H. R. 6191 but without section 2, which it struck out and requested the Social Security Administration to accord the matter further study and see what could be done to avoid making "dual" payments for the same disability.

Your legislative representatives, with the support of other interested organizations, strongly opposed the deletion of section 2, as passed by the House, and after the matter had been reconsidered by the committee, Chairman Byrd made a commendable frank statement on the Senate floor and urged his colleagues to reject the earlier committee report which had stricken section 2 from the bill. This action was immediately taken by the Senate and then Senator Byrd moved that section 2 be restored and that H. R. 6191 be passed as thus amended, making it conform to the House version. This, too, was accomplished in a matter of minutes and the bill then went to the President, who affixed his signature to the new law, Public Law 85-109. There are numerous bills on a variety of subjects—and some of them DAV measures—that have not as yet run the complete legislative battle course to emerge with a public law number. In fact, some of our cherished bills are still in committee in one House or the other. The open committee hearings this year have not been as numerous as usually the case, and some of the most important proposals, including H. R. 52, were decided in committee in executive session. It is regrettable that the service organizations were given the opportunity to present their views in writing, and, of course, through informal contacts with individual Senate and House Members, but there is something wrong when extremely important measures are considered finally in committee behind closed doors, and persons who are intensely interested in the outcome, such as the national legislative and other offices of recognized veterans' organizations, are not permitted to appear at open hearings and formally present the reasons and arguments in support of their particular items of proposed legislation. And when the committee is in executive session the members thereof are deprived of the often very decided advantages accruing from a question and answer session, which always follows the formal presenta-

tions at open hearings, and thereby may be influenced in making a decision that is not the best possible one based upon the real merits of the various proposals before them. It must be admitted that we view the present trend toward executive committee meetings with considerable skepticism and hope that it is but a passing phase which will be replaced by the democratic and time-tested procedure of open hearings where all facets of a given subject can be explored and discussed by the witnesses and the members of the committee, or subcommittee, having jurisdiction.

Many bills introduced at this session have been analyzed and bills were prepared by the DAV legislative service, in some instances for introduction by friendly Members of the Senate and the House, whose cooperation in this, and other connections in the furtherance of our legislative programs, is deeply appreciated. It would be unfair to single out several names for special praise, in view of the vast feeling of good will displayed toward the DAV by many Members of both Houses of Congress, even though some of them had to be "sold hard" on specific proposals, but it does seem very much in order to reiterate our thanks to Senator Olin Johnston and Representative Olin Teague, both members of this organization, for their kindness and friendly cooperation in celebrating the 25th chartered existence of the DAV by delivering appropriate messages to the Senate and the House in commemoration.

Senator Charles E. Potter spoke on the floor of the Senate in behalf of our proposal for a Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Senator Potter's remarks were very much appreciated and pointed up to the need for such a committee.

I wish to thank the national commander, the national adjutant, Capt. Cicero F. Hogan, director of claims, Mr. John W. Burris, director of employment, and their respective staffs, for the splendid cooperation, advice and assistance, so freely given to my assistant and myself whenever we called upon them, and for their initiative in bringing to our attention matters which they believed we should see, and perhaps concern ourselves with, in the interest of this organization. In addition to the appreciation which I feel for the outstanding help given me by Mr. E. M. Freudenberger and Mrs. William E. Tate, I am grateful to all members of the DAV who responded to our call for help in our efforts to put across the DAV legislative program during the past year.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,  
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,  
Washington, D. C., June 27, 1957.

HON. HARRY F. BYRD,  
*Chairman, Committee on Finance, United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in reply to your letter of May 20, 1957, requesting the views of the Bureau of the Budget on H. R. 52, to provide increases in service-connected disability compensation and to increase dependency allowances.

This bill raises some important issues of public policy which have been the subject of intensive study by this administration over a considerable period of time. On March 5, 1955, the President appointed a Commission on Veterans' Pensions to study laws and policies pertaining to pension, compensation, and related nonmedical benefits for veterans and their dependents and to recommend principles which should govern modernization of these benefits.

In April 1956, the Commission completed an exhaustive review of the development and present status of the various programs which assist veterans in their



adjustment to civilian life, provide disability or death compensation to those disabled in service, or who die from service-connected causes and leave dependents, and assure needy veterans of adequate income for basic necessities.

The Commission's recommendations affect the bulk of our growing veterans' programs for which the Government is already spending \$5 billion yearly, and therefore concern not only 23 million veterans and their dependents, but all citizens as well. The President directed that the agencies concerned make a most thorough and searching study of its recommendations, and indicated his intention of submitting a message to this session of Congress outlining his recommendations in this field of national policy. However, because of the great scope and complexity of the problems involved, the lateness of the session, and the heavy legislative burdens before the Congress, the President has now concluded it would be best to withhold submitting recommendations on the overall aspects of his report until the next session.

In the meantime, the Congress has before it vital legislation in this area on which the President has asked me to comment in advance of his general message. Specifically, H. R. 52, a bill to increase disability compensation rates and dependency allowances, is now pending before your committee after passage by the House. The President has often expressed his determination that service-disabled veterans receive sympathetic consideration by the Government. Accordingly, he would favor action that would now give needed and appropriate help to disabled veterans and their dependents without disrupting the development of sound overall disability compensation structure.

The Commission on Veterans' Pensions emphasized the need for fundamental improvements in our disability compensation system to modernize it and make it equitable. In 1955 the Veterans' Administration began a revision of the schedule for rating disabilities to assure that it would reflect the current level of medical, economic, and other scientific knowledge. This revision, based on the existing statutory standard of average impairment of earning capacity, is now proceeding with the President's approval. He is also directing the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to develop for submission to Congress a schedule of supplementary awards which will make equitable provision for such economic factors as loss of physical integrity, social inadaptability, and shortened life expectancy. Until completion of the studies on which these revisions will be based, it is essential to exercise care in increasing compensation rates and to avoid changes which may further distort the compensation structure. For compensation payments to service-disabled veterans now total nearly \$1.5 billion annually and in general are adequate. The need for some increases in compensation rates is clear, but increases ranging from 10 percent to 30 percent a first-year cost of \$170 million, as proposed in H. R. 52, in our opinion, are greater than necessary or desirable.

Two problems in the disability compensation area, however, merit immediate attention. First, in view of the accepted purpose of compensation; namely to make good for lost or impaired earnings capacity of disabled veterans, it seems apparent that some relief to the disabled veterans now is necessary in order to maintain their comparative status in our society. Specifically, a moderate increase appears to be warranted in all veterans' disability compensation rates except the lower statutory awards to achieve this objective. Dependents' allowances for disabled veterans likewise need to be kept in proper relationship to disability compensation rates. Service-connected death benefits, however, were thoroughly reworked in the Servicemen's and Veterans' Survivor Benefits Act enacted last year and are now adequate.

Second, as the President has repeatedly stressed, special consideration should be given to totally disabled veterans. Because the present 100-percent disabled category encompasses many veterans with disabilities varying greatly in severity, the flat increase proposed by H. R. 52 for all veterans in this group is not justified. Emphasis should be placed on those most in need of help—so seriously disabled as to be housebound as a result of their service-connected disability and incapable of supplementing their disability benefits through income from work, yet unable to qualify for the higher statutory awards. This category of disabled veterans should be identified; equity demands that they be given compensation to help make good for their inability to earn outside income. Accordingly, it is suggested that a special category be established among the 100-percent disabled, to be called the housebound group, whose basic compensation rate would be raised to \$240 monthly.

The adjustments herein proposed would cost approximately \$65 million a year. The suggested increases would further evidence our determination to

maintain an equitable and adequate compensation system, so that veterans and their families will be able, despite their handicaps, to carry forward as self-reliant citizens.

There are other problems in the field of veterans' benefits which were studied by the Commission on Veterans' Pensions and which will require action by the Congress. The non-service-connected pension program, in particular, appears in need of fundamental revision to bring it up to date. The President will forward to the Congress at the beginning of its next session his further recommendations regarding veterans' matters.

Meanwhile, the above proposals for immediate adjustments in the veterans' service-connected disability compensation rates are recommended for your consideration in place of H. R. 52. I am authorized to advise you that the enactment of H. R. 52 in its present form would not be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely,

PERCIVAL BRUNDAGE,  
*Director.*

#### COMPENSATION

1956 Resolution Nos.	Subjects	Bill Nos.
372 374-131	Statutory awards—service prior to August 1, 1952..... Compensation increases.....	H. R. 69, H. R. 2770. H. R. 51, H. R. 52, S. 39, S. 535, etc.
370-19 244-373	Redefinition of widow..... Separate statutory awards.....	H. R. 3658. H. R. 76, H. R. 141, H. R. 5562.
195	Minimum 30 percent—POW's.....	S. 1994.
270	Minimum 10 percent—gas, wounds.....	H. R. 330, H. R. 3867.
229	Protection, service-connection.....	H. R. 405, H. R. 6716.
295	Presumption, cancer.....	H. R. 924, etc.
293	Presumption, psychoses.....	H. R. 924, etc.
123	Presumption, multiple sclerosis.....	H. R. 924, etc.
202	Dependency allowance, all rates.....	H. R. 51, H. R. 404, S. 535.

#### PENSION

30	Exclude widows' commercial insurance as income-pension purposes.....	H. R. 416, H. R. 5815.
346	Oppose stoppage of pension where veterans live abroad.....	H. R. 62, H. R. 63. (allens).
211	Increase pension income limits.....	H. R. 122, H. R. 406, H. R. 407, S. 1, S. 40, etc.

#### VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION

75 380	Extension for medical reasons..... Education—children of 100 percent service-connected veterans.....	H. R. 6426. H. R. 5930.
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#### HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR DENTAL CARE

285	Recognition of chiropractors by Veterans' Administration.....	H. R. 968, H. R. 2178.
355	Continuing dental care.....	H. R. 2172.
23	VA hospitalization, retired personnel.....	H. R. 2174, S. 542.
384	More domiciliary homes.....	H. R. 309, H. R. 403, H. R. 2152, S. 1530.

#### EMPLOYMENT

31	Retention credits, disabled veterans, in Government reduction-in-force programs.....	H. R. 7973.
40	Workmen's compensation premiums, reimbursement to States. NOTE.—Appropriation bills affecting agencies under this general subject were noted and assistance rendered as indicated in obtaining adequate funds.	H. R. 7936.

INSURANCE

1956 Resolution Nos.	Subjects	Bill Nos.
312	Insurance time limits, mental cases.....	H. R. 8709.
56	USGLI, 60-year age limit.....	H. R. 8707.
24	For those in service early, increase from \$5,000 to \$10,000 coverage.....	H. R. 8708.
369	NSLI, 1 year extension, etc.....	H. R. 4434, etc.
21	Waivers, remove limitations.....	H. R. 8710.

LOAN GUARANTY

241	Extensions.....	H. R. 59, H. R. 1128, H. R. 1917, H. R. 460, H. R. 7840.
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CEMETERIES, GRAVE MARKERS

28 375	Cash in lieu of grave markers..... Need for more national cemeteries.....	H. R. 7928. H. R. 34, H. R. 1262.
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MISCELLANEOUS

368	Status of forces treaties.....	H. R. 598, H. R. 8820, H. J. Res. 149, H. J. Res. 211, S. J. Res. 40, etc.
371	To establish Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.....	S. Res. 23, S. Res. 36, S. Res. 43, S. Res. 86.
322	Court of Justice, to decide cases denied by VA Board of Veterans' Appeals.	H. R. 272 (Judicial Review), H. R. 834, (Court of Claims), H. R. 1006.

Senior Vice Commander PAUL FREDERICK. Thank you very much, Major Clark, for your report and at this time the Chair will entertain a motion that the report be received and referred to the proper national committee.

Comrade JOHN FLORENA (Blind Veterans). I move that the report be accepted and referred to the proper convention committee.

Comrade F. T. RIGGS (California Chapter No. 32). Second the motion.

(The motion was put to a vote and carried.)

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. Yesterday the national commander made an introduction. He presented past national commanders and in the introduction of these past national commanders one was presented in name only due to the fact that he was not with us yesterday. So today I am going to take the honor of presenting to you personally for a few remarks—I know he is a very dear friend of most everyone of you, he is a native of Buffalo, past New York department commander, past national commander; he has been in ill health but I think he is bouncing back in fine shape, he is certainly glad to be with us and we are even more pleased to have him with us. At this time I present to you for a few words, Past National Commander Milt Cohn. [Applause.]

Past National Commander MILTON COHN. Comrades, I know that you don't want to hear any more speeches, and I would just like to say that I am glad to see you all here, and glad you are having an opportunity to discuss the problems that beset us and I hope that by the time this convention ends we will have most things settled in a

manner which we want and we will go on fighting for everything that is right and good for us. After all, if we don't fight for ourselves, there is nobody going to fight for us.

Now the lines have been drawn. We know exactly what we stand for and it is just about time that we put a little bit of that old-fashioned oomph into what we are battling about.

Best of luck to you. It is a pleasure to be up here, it is a pleasure to be able to be up here and say hello to you all and I want to thank you very much for extending this opportunity to me.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. Thanks a lot, Milt, and you have the hopes of everyone here for a speedy recovery from your recent illness.

Now the Chair will present to you for a few words, he is the Chief, Veterans' Counseling Service Staff, United States Civil Service Commission, Mr. Bruce Stubblefield.

Mr. BRUCE STUBBLEFIELD (United States Civil Service Commission). Thank you, Commander. You know John Burris made my speech yesterday. I do want to make an announcement, however. First I would like to say I am sorry Dr. Middleton left. I have a new project for his medical service. If they just figure out a way for us old codgers to lose something besides our teeth first I would appreciate it.

Another project that I want him to consider since they are concerned with the aged, it seems to me that everywhere I go somebody is concerned about the aged. I don't know whether looking at me prompts that or not. But I tell you one thing, and I will bet you will agree with me. If he put more comfortable chairs under the gripping tree at the hospitals and homes, he could get all the advice he needs on improving the medical service.

You have already met my colleague from New York, Tom Kelly. That should indicate to you the interest of the Commission that I represent in veterans. The Chairman is a veteran, the new member from Massachusetts, Commissioner Phillips is a veteran, one World War I and one World War II. That just about balances it off, because you have got to have World War II to have energy, and you have got to have World War I to have experience, and you put the two together and you have got a pretty good team and we are finding that out in this veterans' business.

I have already arranged for my assistant who is a World War II man to take over the working detail of our program. He took that over on the first of this month. He will be visiting with you from time to time. For the next 2 years I expect to get into the field and I will be calling on your headquarters in several States. We need help. The Government needs help in finding competent people in shortage categories, engineers, scientists, and even stenographers and typists. We are going to try to set up, with your help, a direct recruiting program which will reach into the grassroots of this country. When the program is completely developed your headquarters, through my good friend, John Burris, will be sending it to you and as our schedule develops you will be notified by John when I expect to be in your State. I hope we will deserve and receive your continued confidence and cooperation.

It is a pleasure to be here and both my associate, Tom Kelly, and I are available. If any of you have collective or individual problems,

don't hesitate to buttonhole us anywhere you see us. We won't be up here. We will be circulating around so that you will have that opportunity. We are going to work with your convention committee in every way that we can.

At this time I will say this and close, the veterans population employed now by the Federal Government, males, has reached close to 62 percent. When you stop to consider that in 1944 you had only 14 percent, you realize that the program which your organization through Bradley and Burriss has helped develop has made that possible, and we are a little bit proud of the record that you have made.

Again, may I thank you for myself and the Commission for this opportunity, and I have also been requested to express the regrets of General Hershey that he couldn't be here and extend a different kind of greeting to you than you received some years past.

Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. Thank you very much, Mr. Stubblefield.

Now I am going to call our director of employment, John Burriss, to the microphone, for the purpose of two introductions. John?

National Director of Employment BURRIS. Commander, it is my extreme pleasure to present the Director of the Bureau of Veterans Reemployment Rights, from Washington, my good friend Bob Salyers of the Department of Labor. [Applause.]

Mr. ROBERT SALYERS (Department of Labor, Washington). Commander, Mr. Corbly, John, and comrades, I am always most happy to be at the convention of the DAV, mainly to extend to you my appreciation and thanks for the wonderful cooperation which your organization gives to the program which is my responsibility and particularly the cooperation received from Major Clark and John Burriss. We keep in close touch through the year from convention to convention and they give us the benefit of their advice and their support and their assistance and it is greatly appreciated.

I am happy this morning to extend to this organization the greetings of the Secretary of Labor, James P. Mitchell. It was my pleasure some months ago to help arrange for and sit in on an extended personal conversation between your national commander and the Secretary of Labor. The commander went over the programs and items in which the DAV was interested. He explained your interest to the Secretary of Labor and this conference, I am sure my colleagues in the Department will agree with me, was most helpful to those of us in the Department who deal with veterans' programs.

I will not take up your valuable time here to go into any exposition of the reemployment rights program except to say it is moving along. We have been very successful during the past year in one area particularly with the cooperation of most of the large railroads throughout the country and the labor organization on them in getting thousands of seniority adjustments for veterans under the decisions, seniority adjustments that will be helpful to them not only in employment but the fringe benefits, pensions, and vacations and things like that. And we appreciate the work in your Department and many of the State departments.

So thanks for letting me come to meet with you from year to year and I look forward to seeing you again next year.

National Director of Employment BARRIS. Thank you very much, Bob.

I now give you our old comrade from Atlanta, Ga., the Director of the Bureau of Employment Security and a member of the Veterans' Subcommittee of the Interstate Commerce, Hon. Marion Williamson.

HON. MARION WILLIAMSON (Bureau of Employment Security). Thank you, John. Comrade Commander and officers, and fellow DAV members: It gives me a lot of pleasure this morning to bring you greetings from those who are engaged in employment security throughout the Nation in the Federal and State program, especially from the State administrative officers and the 1,750 local employment officers. We try to do an effective job. We welcome your suggestions. We think and know that employment secures and prevents more mental and physical illness than a whole college of physicians.

I am reminded of something Bruce Stubblefield said a while ago about a couple that got married back in Georgia. The mother-in-law came to the son-in-law and said, "Son, I just can't understand it. You married our daughter, you came from a good family, and now just as soon as you got married, you start running around with another gal. How do you explain it?"

He says, "Mother, I have learned the difference between dignified acquiescence and wholehearted cooperation."

I want to thank the DAV for their wholehearted cooperation that they are giving the employment security program and we want you to help us make it better.

National Commander BURKE (now presiding). The next speaker is too well known to all of you for me to go into his lengthy biographical history of his abilities as a movie star and his abilities as a national commander of another veterans' organization, and what he has done for us as a life member of our organization. And I happened to mention his name first because I'd like to tell you a true story. You know your national commander never tells anything but true stories. But Harold Russell and I were at a—[applause]—you know, I wouldn't be surprised, Harold, if a couple of people around here like you. Harold and I were in a meeting together and being the type without arms we got rid of the big fellows like Marshall Miller and others who were around there who couldn't drink as well as Harold and I, to be perfectly frank with you, we left a joint in mid-Manhattan in New York City at 4 o'clock in the morning, and it is that section of New York City where 2 patrolmen walk together on a beat. You are not allowed to have 1 patrolman walk a beat alone. And as we staggered out to the curb, 2 policemen came along and saw both of us, and looking at our very apparent disabilities, walked over to us and said to me, "Don't you think you fellows ought to get out of this section of town at this hour of the morning?" And being Irish as I am and with a load on, I turned around to that cop, looked him square in the eyes and said, "Sir, officer, let me tell you something. We only have 1 arm between the 2 of us, and if you are looking for trouble you are going to get it."

Whereupon I felt the steel hook pressing on my back, tapping, I turned around, looked down at Russell. He looked at me and said, "Who needs you?"

Our good friend, disabled veteran, Vice President of the World Veterans Federation, has visited our convention many times and I hope that he comes many more times, Harold Russell of Massachusetts. [Applause.]

Comrade HAROLD RUSSELL. Who needs you, Commander?

Commander Burke, officers and fellow DAV'ers: I want to thank Joe for that very enlightening introduction but the reason we were in that joint until 5 o'clock in the morning is that each one of us were trying to duck the check. Finally he picked it up.

I want to thank you for the mention of the movie star business because something interesting happened a few weeks ago when I came into New York City by train and the train pulled into Pennsylvania Station, standing in the aisle waiting for the porters to unload the baggage, and at that point a lady standing in front of me turned around and looked at me. She said, "Harold Russell." She turned to the little boy, a kid about 5 years old, and said, "Johnny, I want you to look at a real movie star." Johnny turned around and said, "Captain Hook. Wait until I tell the kids about this one."

Seriously, though, I do want to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for once again the opportunity of appearing before a DAV convention. I also want to thank the membership and Commander Burke for the outstanding cooperation we have had as members of the World Veterans Federation together this last year which I know will continue in the coming years. I sincerely believe that each year, that these years ahead of us as veterans, as representatives of millions of disabled veterans, are crucial ones. I sincerely believe on the horizon is looming again the old Economy Act. And if ever the veterans of this Nation need strong representation it is today. It is upon the shoulders of the organized veterans that falls the responsibility of carrying forth the burdens that are rightfully ours, given to us by a great people and to protect the rights of millions of veterans throughout the Nation.

This is a crucial year and so it behooves each and every one of us to do everything in our power as individuals, as members of our organization to bring many, many more of the unorganized veterans into the fold. The war has fast faded from the minds of too many of the American people. The fact is that there are today almost a hundred thousand men in our veterans hospitals forgotten largely in the minds of the American public. We must every time keep this fact before them. We must work to build our organization, we must make our voices heard in our States and in Washington, D. C., because if they are not heard and if our organizations grow weaker, then we can say goodbye to the benefits that we have enjoyed.

Yes; this is a crucial year and this is a year when a great opportunity is presented to all our organized organizations to work together in harmony and unity. The job is great but we can and will do it. But we will only do it with the cooperation and the support and the hard working efforts of all our organized veterans.

I also want to thank the members of our Disabled American Veterans for the great support they have given the World Veterans Federation. As you know, they represent the veteran membership of 35 nations. One hundred and thirty-four organizations of these various countries throughout the world represent almost a total member-





National Commander BURKE. You asked for a point of personal privilege. I will have to make a speech. The Chair will have to deny your request for introduction of a motion at this time because it is not in order now. That motion of yours will be in order at a later time. So if you will bear with us we will discuss it and give it a time to come up when we can see what we want to determine. At first blush the Chair reminds the State former commander of Ohio that the committee on rehabilitation is fully able to take care of such a meeting, but we will discuss it later because we have other business this morning that is scheduled.

Comrade ROBEY. I appreciate the consideration and granting the privilege. My only interest in the thing is fairness to all.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair takes extreme pleasure in presenting at this time for some very brief remarks the bodyguard of Harold Russell and I when we are in New York City. But the night I spoke about when I introduced Harold, he had to go home early.

At this time I would like to present to you my very good friend, adviser in many respects as far as the World Veterans Federation is concerned, because his opinions are something to be used and valued. I would like to present to you the executive secretary of the World Veterans Fund, Mr. Marshall Miller.

Mr. MARSHALL MILLER (World Veterans Federation). Commander Burke, members and guests of DAV, the president of the World Veterans Fund, Mr. Vanderbilt, had hoped to be with you at the convention. Unfortunately, he was detained on the west coast and he extends his best wishes.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you, the officers and leaders, who have supported the important overseas rehabilitation work throughout the world of the World Veterans Federation. I think the American know-how in the field of rehabilitation is most effective propaganda.

I would like to pay tribute to Commander Burke who has been extremely helpful to the cause of veterans both in the United States as well as overseas. We are also appreciative of the work done through the years by such towers of strength as Vivian Corbly, Bonnie Maile, and other leaders of your organization.

It is a privilege to appear before you. We thank you for your courtesy in inviting us. Thank you.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK (now presiding). Thank you, Marshall. I might add that both Comrades Harold Russell and Marshall Miller are past national commanders of the American Veterans of World War II.

National Adjutant CORBLY. This could be stated off the record but down through the years I have been very, very proud of my association with Harold Russell. It also happens that I am affiliated with some of the organizations that he is affiliated with. Incidentally, he is a Democrat; so am I. For the 4 or 5 months following the Democratic National Convention held in Chicago, daily we received letters that read something like this:

We are returning your Ident-O Tags. We don't believe in supporting the charitable purposes of an organization that permits its national leader to enter into partisan politics. Whenever you cease to criticize the Republican Party and the great General Eisenhower we will again contribute to your organization.

Of course, in each instance I had to tell them we didn't even know Harold Russell, that we were a nonpartisan organization.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. Will Junior Vice Commander Judge Williams, come to the microphone for the purpose of an introduction?

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. Thank you very much, Paul. As you can see we are very versatile and very liberal in Massachusetts. We have outstanding Democrats as well as outstanding Republicans.

Comrades, one of the phenomena of the whole history of the relationship between men and nations is the imaginary line that stretches from the State of Maine to Seattle, Wash., separating the United States from the Dominion of Canada, and a peculiar phenomena of the imaginary line, known to us as the Canadian border, is that never a shot has been fired across that line, at any point, in over 150 years. The only thing which has ever come across that line was bootleg whiskey during prohibition.

My comrades, we are very much honored to have with us as the guest of this convention a distinguished citizen of our good neighbor on the other side of the falls. He is seated with a distinguished group of our own comrades here immediately in front of this platform and I am going to ask those with whom he is immediately associated by force of circumstances in the long run, but by a happy circumstance at this time, if they will be kind enough to escort to the platform, Capt. F. J. L. Woodcock representing the Sir Arthur Pearson Association of the War Blinded of Canada. Their headquarters is in Toronto. My comrades of the Blind Chapter, would you escort Commander Woodcock to the platform? And, comrades, will you arise?

(The convention rose to applaud.)

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. Captain, it is a great pleasure to welcome you here on behalf of the Disabled American Veterans of the United States of America, and I notice that you have selected a comrade from Massachusetts, John Florena to escort you up here. Would you be good enough to honor us with a few words?

Capt. F. J. L. Woodcock (Sir Arthur Pearson Association of the War Blinded of Canada). One day they are going to invent one of these things that will find me, you know. (Referring to microphone.)

National Commander, your officers and members of the DAV, I want to call that initial title of yours the DVA because that is our Department of Veterans Affairs in Canada and I have a little difficulty remembering DAV. We interpret our Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) as "Don't Volunteer Again." [Applause.]

I would at this time like to very sincerely bring you the best wishes from, I am going to say Disabled Veterans in Canada, although I particularly represent the War Blinded of Canada. I am also a member of what is known as the National Council of Veterans Associations. Now that is a group of nationally organized veterans' bodies, by name the War Amputations of Canada, whom I understand you are going to meet on the bridge, you are going to lock hooks or tangle tin legs or cross crutches at something like 20 paces on Thursday, the paraplegics, the war pensioners, the Army, Navy, Air Force veterans and the National Council of Industrial Veterans of Canada, the Hong Kong Prisoner-of-War Association, and I could go on mentioning a

number of them. We all sit together in a council whenever there is a crisis such as I understand you have before you at this convention, and it is unity that counts with us up there, and I know it is with you down here. So that in all sincerity I bring you greetings from that disabled group of veterans in Canada.

I would respectfully like to take exception to some of the remarks made on this platform. One, that a shot has never been fired across the border in all these years. That is not quite true, fellows. There is a hell of a lot of poaching going on down in the eastern township.

Mixed emotions I couldn't help but feel. I have mixed emotions, too. That is another expression from the platform this morning. I am glad to be here and I considered it quite a privilege over this last 4 years to have received an invitation from this organization, but unfortunately for 3 successive years I was unable to attend on account of previous commitments abroad and on this continent, and I am sad, too, that I have to leave this afternoon, and yet glad because they are a fine bunch of fellows, to attend the BVA convention in Hartford. Mixed emotions. Dare I tell the old one of the chap watching his new Cadillac being driven over the edge of the cliff with his mother-in-law at the wheel?

And the last but I will say perhaps the most important exception—and I mention exception with all respect—is the exception to the statement that if 1 million disabled veterans in this country could see your service officers at work, they would flock to join you. Fellows, you and I know that that is not so. If we have an ounce of intelligence at all, you know that it is just as true on this side of the border as it is on ours, unless the American is an entirely different breed of bucks than we are, that 20 percent of your eligible membership only are going to carry the load in any case. It is true, however large or however small the organization. It is only the workhorses that are going to do the work. And I have attended a good many conventions and I hear the enthusiasm, the fire, the oomph as it has been said from the platform put into your deliberations, but there is only one word of advice that I would give in closing, and that is when you go back to the various parts of this continent from which you have come that you carry the same fire and enthusiasm you show before the convention into your everyday lives, fighting for the other fellow who is not as well off as you are. Thanks very much. [Applause.]

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. Thank you very much, Captain. I sincerely wish that this organization consisted of the 20 percent of the 4 million eligibles in the United States. We would have somewhat more than our present 200,000 membership.

We are deeply honored and very grateful to you, Captain, for your presence on this platform this morning. And those of us in New England are specially interested in your remarks concerning the Dominion because there are more native sons of Canada living in the New England States than are now living in Canada and any time that you want to meet some people from Halifax, just come to Boston. I only say that because my father was born there.

My comrades, to return to the regular business of the convention, at this time we shall hear another report of a standing committee. At this time I present chairman of the national finance committee, past department commander of the host State of New York, the man who is in charge of all the prisoners in the State, Frank Buono.

Finance Committee Chairman FRANCIS R. BUONO. When he said I was in charge of all the prisoners in the State, I hope you are not going to be a captive audience.

This is the report of the national finance committee, of the DAV. You know the committee is composed of Francis R. Buono, Joseph F. Burke, Boniface R. Maile, Robert J. McFarland, and Floyd L. Ming.

The national finance committee presents their report to you after an exceedingly active year of operations, many meetings, and other sincere effort to fulfill the obligations and the trust imposed on us by our constitution and bylaws.

It is anticipated that the income budget for the calendar year ending December 31, 1957, will be \$2,008,000. This will be derived mainly from membership returns and Ident-O-Tag proceeds. It is estimated that expenses and charges will require \$1,915,500. The greater portion of this being \$760,000 for salaries of field service, and \$218,000 for the Washington office, or a total of \$978,000 for service.

Your finance committee feels that this report should include the following areas requiring the action and recommendations of the committee:

#### HIDDEN TREASURE SHOW

Pursuant to the approval of the 1955 and 1956 executive committees and national finance committees, the DAV, in order to augment its two major sources of income, i. e., membership and Ident-O-Tag; sponsored a television show known as the Hidden Treasure show as a public relations vehicle. The purpose of this venture was to make possible a better understanding of our service, membership, and Ident-O-Tag program by the general public. It was incidentally hoped that the program would be self-liquidating, by virtue of the \$1 entry fee required of contestants. Such a public relations program was deemed necessary to offset the setback suffered as the result of unfair publicity in 1953. A pilot show was presented over a radio hookup as part of the entertainment program of the Des Moines national convention and later was presented in nearly all of the VA hospitals. This pilot show had a contest feature with cash prizes. The format of the Hidden Treasure show and its attendant cash prize contest was changed and approved at the San Antonio convention. Later the United States post office was requested to rule on the mailability of the contest material. The show was produced, filmed, and reviewed by the post office authorities again. They required many costly and time-consuming changes before it was accepted in March of this year.

The show was presented to the general public over 123 television stations beginning April 5 and ending May 1, 1957. Comments and reviews indicated that the show provided good entertainment and presented the DAV story most favorably by the use of three 1-minute public service commercials. It was the consensus of opinion in the TV industry, however, that the contest phase of the show was too involved and moved too fast to obtain the necessary number of entrants who could have made the program self-liquidating. Through this project the DAV and its service programs were presented to millions of Americans in a factual and favorable light. This was confirmed by a review of correspondence coming into national headquarters, and an immediate and substantial increase in membership and in Ident-

O-Tag returns. As a direct result of the Hidden Treasure show, the DAV story was told on the Duuinger show; Cowtown, USA; and other network television and radio network programs. Many benefits have been evidenced and it is confidently expected that they will continue for some time in the future. The Hidden Treasure show and other programs were shown more than 250 times on television, and in addition we have also told the DAV story through guest appearances and spot announcements more than 1,500 times on radio. The 58 television outlets on the ABC network alone, which were additional to the outlets showing the Hidden Treasure show, would have cost nearly \$75,000 if purchased commercially.

IDENT-O-TAG

Your committee is most happy to report that this year the Ident-o-Tag picture to date is the best in many years. Experience and economy has reduced our cost per mailing by 1 cent each, a sizable saving when you consider a 40-million-piece mailing. Production records this calendar year exceed any year in Ident-O-Tag history. This year's work will have been completed by September 15, 1957. During the 1956 year we more than doubled the net return of 1955 and are well ahead of our record in our first 7½ months of 1957, but cannot predict the picture for the next 4½ months. Through testing, the use of new equipment and economy measures we hope to keep even with the rising costs of the necessary commodity items and new operations will be tried to obtain a greater percentage return as well as a higher rate of contribution.

It would be well to note that the report of net Ident-O-Tag returns at the San Antonio convention was \$330,000. At this time the net returns are \$800,000, and we contemplate a \$1 million return for the year 1957.

PROPERTY

The finance committee believed that by consolidating national headquarters and Ident-O-Tag at 5555 Ridge Avenue, Cincinnati, that we should attempt to dispose of all other properties in Cincinnati. Therefore, we did sell the land and building at 1216 East McMillan Street for \$90,000 which was \$25,000 more than the appraisal company estimated we could realize. When the highest offer for old headquarters at 1423 East McMillan Street was \$350,000, an amount the appraisers said we could expect, the committee refused to sell at that time, and instructed the national adjutant to develop it as rental property in order to enhance its sale value. All but 1 room at 1423 East McMillan is now in lease or rent and we are receiving the following annual rental income.

	<i>Yearly income</i>
20 miscellaneous leases at 1423 East McMillan Street-----	\$ 49,000. 37
GE lease-----	85,044. 00
Cafeteria lease-----	12,000. 00
Salutaris rent-----	3,120. 00
 Total-----	 149,164. 37

Based on the present annual rental income we feel that the national adjutant has developed 1423 East McMillan to a point where we should realize well over twice the original appraisal and are attempt-

ing an early sale. Any proceeds received from the sale of such real property must be applied toward the retiring of a mortgage held by the life membership fund.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is the second largest source of DAV income in that national headquarters receives \$1 per capita and \$1 service fee for each member. During the 1956-57 year we reached the largest membership in DAV history. At the closing of the books on June 30, 1957, we had:

Full paid life members-----	50,978
Part paid life members-----	14,397
Annual members-----	131,375
Total-----	196,750

We will begin the new year with 62,179 life members—50,179 being fully paid. We could, if we would, finance all national DAV activities by increasing our membership from the 3 million who are eligible. We should have at least 1 million of those eligible on our membership rolls.

The finance committee recommends that the annual per capita tax be raised from \$1 to \$2.

It is the duty of the national finance committee to supervise the raising and expenditure of all DAV funds. Our efforts have been studied and sincere. It is necessary to spend money in order to raise money and sometimes the best of proposals do not pay dividends. We have put into effect many administrative economies. Some proposals have been rejected because we were unanimous in our belief that they were not in the best interests of the DAV and its finance program. One such proposal was to eliminate our public relations and publicity department, and another to provide per diem for a national service officer meeting prior to the call of the convention.

It would have been most difficult for the DAV to operate for the last several years had it not been for funds requested by the national finance committee and received from the Disabled American Veterans Service Foundation. The Service Foundation had been created by the action of the El Paso national convention for the purpose of raising such funds for the DAV and appropriating it for the DAV service needs. Since 1948 we have requested and received \$3,240,000 from the Service Foundation, all of which was used during this period for NSO field service and Washington service. As a result of these requests which were expedient for the operation of the DAV we have greatly reduced the available funds of the Service Foundation and cannot expect any appropriations in the future. We must, and will from this date on, live within our income. We must reduce our expenses, remain dollar conscious, economize in every field of endeavor, and at the same time make our Ident-O-Tag and membership efforts as productive as possible.

Your national adjutant and national director of claims are presently evaluating the various offices as to their caseload and personnel per office. We have a staff of some 800 employees working for us in the field of service, administrative and Ident-O-Tag. Most of them are capable, loyal, and conscientious workers who are receiving less money than their contemporaries in similar pursuits. We suggest that you consider recommending, as has been done by Arizona, to change the semimonthly to a monthly newspaper, abolishing chapter news and

tures, and restricting it to the publication of legislation, service and DAV policy news.

It is also recommended that departments give consideration to the furnishing of stenographic assistance to NSO offices and the supplementing of NSO salaries, as is presently being done by Michigan, California, Utah, Ohio, St. Louis chapter, and others.

Your chairman moves the adoption of this report and its reference to the national convention committee on finance and dues.

Comrade L. LAMONTAGNE (Department of New Hampshire). I move the report be received and referred to the proper convention committee.

Comrade PETER TAMPAS (Department of Vermont). Second.  
 Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. As this matter is ripe at this stage, I shall dispense with the usual formalities and accept the motion that this report be received and sent to the proper convention committees. All in favor, say "Aye."  
 The motion shall prevail.

HASKINS & SELLS REPORT

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS REPORT ON EXAMINATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1956

Accountants' certificate.  
 Balance sheet, December 31, 1956 (exhibit A).  
 Statement of income and service expenses for the year ended December 31, 1956 (exhibit B).  
 Income from distribution of Ident-O-Tags (schedule 1).

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

ACCOUNTANTS' CERTIFICATE

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS: We have examined the balance sheet of national headquarters of Disabled American Veterans as of December 31, 1956, the related statement of income and service expenses for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records as such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances, except that because of the nature of and the relatively small amounts generally involved in individual collections, our examination with respect to receivables was limited to tests of the cash receipts as recorded.  
 In our opinion, subject to the foregoing explanation as to cash receipts, the accompanying balance sheet and the statement of income and service expenses present fairly the financial position of national headquarters at December 31, 1956, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.  
 APRIL 19, 1957.

HASKINS & SELLS.

EXHIBIT A.—Balance sheet, Dec. 31, 1956

ASSETS	
Current assets:	
Cash	\$333,527.00
Notes receivable	16,780.01
Accounts receivable (less allowance of \$3,500 for doubtful accounts)	29,784.58
Inventories at cost:	
Ident-O-Tag (finished tags, material, and supplies, etc.)	395,713.79
Merchandise for sale	219,786.73
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>995,592.11</b>

Footnote at end of table, p. 112.

## EXHIBIT A.—Balance sheet, Dec. 31, 1956—Continued

Investments and other assets:	
Notes receivable, noncurrent portion <sup>1</sup> -----	\$196,405.94
Cash surrender value of life insurance <sup>1</sup> -----	155,697.97
Securities-----	22,167.50
Total investments and other assets-----	<u>374,271.41</u>
Property, plant, and equipment, at cost:	
Land and improvements-----	308,963.08
Buildings-----	3,540,269.94
Machinery, equipment, furniture, etc-----	1,234,177.16
Total-----	5,083,410.18
Less accumulated depreciation-----	1,268,782.98
Property, plant, and equipment, net-----	<u>3,814,627.20</u>
Deferred charges:	
Prepaid television contest expenses <sup>2</sup> -----	156,560.19
Office supplies, etc-----	42,926.85
Prepaid insurance-----	37,174.57
Prepaid postage-----	19,375.97
Other-----	16,797.71
Total deferred charges-----	<u>272,835.29</u>
Total-----	<u>5,457,326.01</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable:	
Trade-----	\$193,198.29
Withholding taxes payable-----	53,256.16
Other-----	19,515.86
Collections on orders not shipped-----	2,751.48
Accrued liabilities:	
Salaries, wages, and commissions-----	55,854.08
Social-security taxes-----	16,022.47
Interest-----	2,436.84
Real-estate and personal-property taxes-----	140,070.28
Other-----	1,890.33
Total current liabilities-----	<u>484,995.79</u>
Mortgage notes payable to life membership fund, 3½ percent due in 7 annual installments commencing in 1958 <sup>1</sup> -----	<u>1,429,505.41</u>
Deferred credits:	
Per capita tax and service fees collected in advance, etc-----	178,073.88
Other-----	1,273.26
Total deferred credits-----	<u>179,347.14</u>
Robert S. Marx Founders' Fund-----	8,428.91
Income retained for operations (decrease of \$414,069.20 during the year, see exhibit B)-----	<u>3,355,048.76</u>
Total-----	<u>5,457,326.01</u>

<sup>1</sup> Notes receivable of \$218,184.95 and life-insurance policies having a cash surrender value of \$182,258.29 are pledged as collateral to the mortgage notes payable to life membership fund.

<sup>2</sup> At December 31, 1956, unexpended commitments in connection with a series of television contest programs to be telecast in 1957 were approximately \$186,000.

NOTE.—The above balance sheet excludes the following: (a) Net assets of life membership fund administered by national headquarters but available for its use only to the extent of its participation in the distribution of annual per capita tax and service fees for life members. (b) Net assets held in trust by Disabled American Veterans Service Foundation but available to national headquarters only upon appropriation by or dissolution of the foundation. Based on unaudited statements, net assets of the foundation were approximately \$765,000 at December 31, 1956.



**EXHIBIT B.—Statement of income and service expenses for the year ended Dec. 31, 1956**

Income was received from the following sources :

Distribution of Indento-Tags, less direct costs and expenses (schedule 1)-----	\$810, 022. 75
National per capita tax and service fees from members-----	388, 375. 00
Donations, bequests, rentals, sale of DAV emblems, etc., less direct costs and expenses-----	49, 158. 44
Appropriation from Disabled American Veterans Service Foundation-----	250, 000. 00
<b>Total</b> -----	<b>1, 497, 556. 19</b>

Expenses were incurred for the following services (free service to all veterans and dependents, maintenance of staff of attorneys in fact (service officers), located in all Veterans' Administration offices, and staff of technical specialists in matters of veteran legislation, civil service, employment, rehabilitation, compensation, retirement, pensions, appeals, etc., located in Washington, D. C.) :

Salaries :

Attorneys in fact (service officers)-----	690, 632. 89
Assistants, stenographers, etc., for attorneys in fact-----	246, 794. 57
Legislative director and assistant-----	17, 385. 13
Legislative stenographers, etc-----	5, 133. 50
Employment director-----	5, 700. 66
Employment stenographers, etc-----	5, 578. 40
<b>Total</b> -----	<b>971, 225. 15</b>

Employees' welfare: Hospital care, group life and accident insurance, retirement plan, etc-----	77, 653. 40
Social security taxes-----	24, 933. 00
Expenses of national commander and executive staff-----	22, 650. 44
Expenses of national convention-----	26, 323. 05
Depreciation-----	17, 654. 86
Other expenses, supplies, postage, travel, taxes, utilities, maintenance, etc-----	81, 258. 57

Expenses were incurred for the following services—continued :

Free service to all veterans and dependents (forward)-----	<b>\$1, 221, 698. 47</b>
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Special service to members, publication of Disabled American Veterans Semimonthly newspaper :

Salaries-----	24, 890. 10
Employees' welfare: Hospital care, group life and accident insurance, retirement plan, etc-----	1, 312. 00
Social security taxes-----	672. 72
Printing and mailing newspaper-----	91, 244. 66
Other publication expenses-----	15, 259. 03
<b>Total</b> -----	<b>133, 378. 51</b>

Free service to motorists, cost of lost key returns and special orders for Ident-O-Tags :

Salaries-----	26, 301. 57
Employees' welfare: Hospital care, group life and accident insurance, retirement plan, etc-----	3, 046. 03
Social security taxes-----	971. 01
Materials and addresses for return of lost keys-----	9, 107. 40
<b>Total</b> -----	<b>39, 426. 01</b>



kid yourself. You are only wasting time by attempting to argue now because you know the dues and finance committee is going to pick that report apart and they are going to report back here. So that is the way we have done it before and you are all as much aware of it as I am.

The Chair now recognizes the National Adjutant.

National Adjutant CORBLY. There are several people in the room representing chapters or departments who have expressed a desire to make presentations at this time. My memory is such that I cannot recall all of them but I know Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and maybe others. Will all of those people come to the platform and at this time we will recognize them for the purpose of their requests.

Ed Gafford, State adjutant of Kentucky.

Comrade E. GAFFORD (Department of Kentucky).

Thank you, Comrade Adjutant.

Distinguished guests, delegates to this convention. In making the motion, I found that this is the proper place and it is my pleasure on behalf of Joe Smith of Kentucky and others to present to our National Commander a token of the appreciation that we have for him for the job that he has done so well. There was considerable debate among the Kentucky delegation and the members of the Governor's staff in Kentucky as to whether or not we would make this presentation but the debate was whether or not we would make Joe a General or a Colonel. Since we have no generals, with the exception of our Governor of Kentucky, Governor Chandler, we have decided we will have to make Joe a Kentucky Colonel. That will make him eligible to vote in a Kentucky primary next time and I believe that we are about tied on Democrats in Kentucky so I will rectify that by saying I am a Democrat Joe.

On behalf of the Kentucky delegation and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, it is my pleasure to present to you, Sargeant Joe, a Colonelship in the Grand Order of the Kentucky Colonels and while I have the floor, it is also my duty to inform all Kentucky Colonels that you will report to the Kentucky delegation headquarters for a brief social moment, for your instructions as to how to proceed with this convention. Thank you very much, Colonel Joe.

National Commander BURKE. Thank you for this, and I will be there to get my instructions, you know that.

I only want to say that I have from Georgia other Southern States somewhat similar to the Kentucky Colonelcy but the only thing that is worrying me this morning with all these honors that were conferred upon me in the South when I toured it this year, am I going to get my vote at the southern caucus tonight?

National Adjutant CORBLY. Herman Burton, Nashville Chapter, Tennessee.

Comrade HERMAN BURTON (Chapter No. 3, Nashville, Tenn.). Comrade commander, officers of the national DAV and comrades, for a number of years prior and after Andrew Jackson was the President of the United States, he occupied the second floor of a small two-story building in Nashville, Tenn., as his office. In recent years that office has been razed. From the huge timbers of cedar in the construction of that office we made a number of gavels from that timber to be presented to people of note all over the country.

It is my privilege and pleasure at this time, representing the State of Tennessee and the Nashville Chapter No. 3, of which I am proud to be the commander, to present a gavel made from this timber to our present national commander, and I would like to say this, in presenting it to him, that Andrew Jackson was a Scotch Irishman just like he is. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. Thank you very much. This is a beautiful gavel and it is from the home of a man whom I admire very much, Andrew Jackson. I must compliment you on the sagacity in not bringing me a gavel from the home of Abraham Lincoln, because I am a Democrat.

National Adjutant CORBLY. If you will please bear with me, under our rules the convention is out of order to give consideration to any matter that requires debate until that time that the national credentials committee has made its first report. The national credentials committee has not been appointed. I will announce its appointment at this time.

When the members of that committee are named, it is requested that they will go with their chairman to our national headquarters office on the mezzanine floor and get the material there which makes it possible for them in a very short period of time to prepare the first reading of the credentials report. Circumstances are such that they should be in a position to report at tomorrow morning's session. It will be a partial report but by submitting same the convention will be in a position to debate matters that are before it. At various times during the convention the credentials committee will return to make additional reports. The final report of the credentials committee will be the call of the roll at the time that the rules of the convention or the delegates of the convention call for the first rollcall.

Under our rules, resolutions are not in order to come before the convention for the convention's consideration until that time that the subject matter of the resolution has been reported to the convention by the proper committee of the convention or that proper committee of the convention has failed to make a report but has completed its total report to the convention.

As I stated to you Monday, I would like to repeat again today, the rules of this convention are your rules. You find them printed in the constitution and bylaws books. All of you have been furnished with a copy of same in your registration kit. They are your rules and your regulations and the Chair is merely here for the purpose of applying your rules and regulations. The rules and the bylaws provide if you so desire under the circumstances and limitations of the bylaws provisions for the changing of any rules that you are not in accord with. You can make that change the minute the credentials committee's first report has been submitted. This convention is the legislative body of the DAV. The delegates registered here are the authority of this convention and please don't, even though we make mistakes up on the topside, please don't interpret them erroneously. You have the last voice. Yelling in the corridors is not going to correct our mistakes. We are going to make mistakes. Merely call the mistake to our attention. We will correct the mistake we have made. We can't correct it otherwise.

Most of us up here are delegates and have exactly the same voice in the procedure of this convention that those of you down there, the

same right of expression that you have. But we are under the same limitations that you are. It is a democratic outfit, but we do not operate like they do in Syria, or like they do in Hungary, and don't try to interpret that a mistake, any lack of judgment that we may show up here, is an attempt to stampede, steamroller, or deprive you of your rights. We only waste time by certain activities of the convention.

All committee caucuses have reported. All of the committees of the convention have been formed. It is now my duty, as secretary of this convention, to read to you the personnel of the various convention committees. At the time that I read the committees, I will read the individual's name who has been designated as the temporary chairman of the committee, and read the name or names of the individuals who have been assigned as advisers to the committees.

Immediately following recess of this meeting, all of the membership of all of the committees and all of the advisers are asked to come to the front of the room that we may discuss with you the procedures that you are to follow in carrying out the purposes of your convention activities in the convention.

The credentials committee is the only convention committee that is appointed by the national commander. The following are the appointees:

(National Adjutant Corbly read the appointments, as follows:)

*Convention committees*

CREREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

District	Member	Chapter
1st.....	Joseph Harold.....	Massachusetts.
2d.....	James A. Schneider.....	New York.
3d.....	Silvio D'Anella.....	Pennsylvania.
4th.....	E. Herrick.....	Maryland.
5th.....	William Todd.....	Georgia.
6th.....	Arthur Pulliam.....	Tennessee.
7th.....	Howard Watts.....	Indiana.
8th.....	Joseph Tabor.....	Michigan.
9th.....	Robert McFarland.....	Missouri.
10th.....	Gordon Hughes.....	Montana.
11th.....	Franklin Thayer, chairman.....	Colorado.
12th.....	Harry Wentworth.....	California.
13th.....	Russell Rock.....	Idaho.
14th.....	P. D. Jackson.....	Texas.
Blind veterans.....	Paddy Driscoll.....	Arkansas.

COMMITTEE ON AMERICANISM

1st.....	Wilfred Barcomb.....	Vermont, No. 5.
2d.....	Samuel LoBue.....	New Jersey, No. 41.
3d.....	Edna Walberg.....	Pennsylvania, No. 67.
4th.....	Ellen M. Kelly.....	Washington, D. C., No. 4.
5th.....	John Ambrose.....	Georgia, No. 45.
6th.....	J. R. Kilroy.....	Louisiana, No. 5.
7th.....	Frank T. Garrett.....	Ohio, No. 1.
8th.....	Douglas McGarrity.....	Michigan, No. 5.
9th.....	John Vulcano.....	Iowa, No. 20.
10th.....	Harold Knapp.....	South Dakota, No. 2.
11th.....	Frank Cain, chairman.....	Colorado, No. 7.
12th.....	Wilson Roush.....	Tucson, Ariz.
13th.....	Curt De Saix.....	California, No. 1.
14th.....	Oswald Crummack.....	Washington, No. 2.
Blind veterans.....	Berry Altman.....	Texas, No. 37.
	David J. Peters.....	
	Judge English, adviser.....	

## Convention committees—Continued

## COMMITTEE ON COMMENDATIONS AND CONDOLENCES

District	Member	Chapter
1st	Grace L. Ulrici	Massachusetts, No. 16.
2d	James Godfrey	Connecticut, No. 12.
3d	Rabbi Louis Parris	Pennsylvania, No. 96.
4th	Arnold Key	Washington, D. C., No. 9.
5th	Charles Kutt	North Carolina, No. 9.
6th	Hassell W. Thigpen	Alabama, No. 4.
7th	Robert McLaughlin	Ohio, No. 35.
8th	Dr. F. Jeths	Illinois, No. 25.
9th	Harvey Livingstone	Missouri, No. 2.
10th	William Kohlen	Minnesota, No. 1.
11th	Seymour Lefton	New Mexico, No. 3.
12th	A. H. Jordan	California, No. 15.
	Henry Snyder, alternate	California, No. 17.
13th	Perry Dye, chairman	Washington, No. 6.
14th	Henry Falmie	Texas, No. 5.
Blind veterans	Dona E. Roberts	
	John E. Feighner, adviser	

## COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

1st	J. Edward Theriault	Massachusetts, No. 45.
2d	Joseph Castelani	New York, No. 38.
3d	Daniel W. Bloom, Jr.	Pennsylvania, No. 9.
4th	Cecil Sandall	Washington, D. C., No. 1.
5th	Eugene D. Caldwell	North Carolina, No. 27.
6th	Arthur C. Pullam	Tennessee, No. 70.
7th	Lewis Caton	Indiana, No. 9.
8th	L. Sylvester	Michigan, No. 9.
9th	William Villont	Omaha, No. 2.
10th	Gordon Hughes	Montana, No. 10.
11th	Warren Smith	Colorado, No. 26.
12th	Leo de Lapp, chairman	California, No. 65.
	Mildred Fisher, alternate	Arizona, No. 1.
13th	A. T. Hietala	Idaho, No. 2.
14th	W. E. Macon	Texas, No. 31.
Blind veterans	Kenneth P. Sigle	
	Sylvester Hoffman, adviser	
	Fred Bristol, adviser	

## COMMITTEE ON D. A. V. AUXILIARY

1st	Ira Einhorn, chairman	Rhode Island, No. 1.
2d	Peter Scardi	New Jersey, No. 9.
3d	Charles Reeves	Pennsylvania, No. 33.
4th	Mary Loughrey, secretary	Washington, D. C., No. 1.
5th	Charles Stalberg	Department of Florida.
6th	Robert Floyd	Louisiana, No. 27.
7th	Robert C. Mohr	Ohio, No. 1.
8th	M. Rosanski	Wisconsin, No. 19.
9th	John Bolen	Missouri, No. 2.
10th	Elliot Hanson	Minnesota, No. 1.
11th	Leonard Fjeldsted	Utah, No. 1.
12th	Clarence Murphy	California, No. 39.
13th	A. T. Hietala	Idaho, No. 2.
14th	Joe Ramsey	Texas, No. 1.
Blind veterans	John Florence	
	John E. Feighner, adviser	

## COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT AND CIVIL SERVICE PREFERENCE

1st	Laurier La Montagne	Department of New Hampshire.
2d	Jack Barry	Connecticut, No. 9.
3d	Marvin Silver	Pennsylvania, No. 96.
4th	Elmer Jebo, chairman	Washington, D. C., No. 9.
5th	Robert C. Gonzales	Florida, No. 23.
6th	Hazel L. Maulden	Alabama, No. 53.
7th	Paul Vandemark	Ohio, No. 9.
8th	H. Fairbanks	Wisconsin, No. 1.
9th	Howard Kenkel	St. Louis, No. 1.
10th	Charles F. Wilson	North Dakota, No. 1.
11th	James Brusatto	Utah, No. 11.
12th	Leslie Hunter	California, No. 135.
	F. T. Riggs, alternate	California, No. 32.
13th	Russell E. Cook	Idaho, No. 6.
14th	A. A. Alexander	Texas, No. 67.
Blind veterans	William F. Hawkins	
	John W. Burris, adviser	

FINANCE AND DUES

National Adjutant CORBLY. In the instance of advisers of this committee the prerogative of appointing a temporary adviser is not within the prerogative of the commander. Under the bylaws the members of the national finance committee are advisers to the committee, and at least one member of the national finance committee must be in attendance at all meetings of the convention finance and dues committee. So that the five advisers are the commander; the chairman of the committee, Frank Buono; Bob McFarland; Bonnie Maile of Detroit; and Floyd Ming of Bakersfield, Calif. [Reading.]

Convention committees

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND DUES

District	Member	Chapter
1st.....	Robert Gosslin.....	Maine, No. 4.
2d.....	Nick Cochianes.....	New York, No. 76.
3d.....	Silvio D. D'Amella.....	Pennsylvania, No. 15.
4th.....	C. Douglas Miley.....	Department of Virginia.
5th.....	John Welch.....	Florida, No. 41.
6th.....	Thomas Chambless.....	Tennessee, No. 8.
7th.....	Howard W. Watts, chairman.....	Indiana, No. 3.
8th.....	Charles Kettle.....	Wisconsin, No. 14.
9th.....	Harold Inman.....	Des Moines, No. 20.
10th.....	Millard W. Rice.....	Minnesota, No. 1.
11th.....	Fred Fielding.....	Utah, No. 9.
12th.....	Frank Douglas.....	California, No. 3.
	Ah Kee Leong, alternate.....	Hawaii, No. 1.
13th.....	Wayne Sheerbon.....	Washington, No. 23.
14th.....	P. D. Jackson.....	Texas, No. 11.
Blind veterans.....	Felix Chester.....	
	All members of NFC, advisers.....	

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

1st.....	Peter Tampas.....	Department of Vermont.
2d.....	James Barletto.....	New Jersey, No. 18.
3d.....	John Solovey.....	Pennsylvania, No. 102.
4th.....	Albert C. Allen.....	Washington, D. C., No. 9.
5th.....	Coleman Hewett.....	Georgia, No. 9.
6th.....	Gaddis Williams, Chairman.....	Mississippi, No. 2.
7th.....	Joseph Racco.....	Ohio, No. 35.
8th.....	Jim Manley.....	Michigan, No. 6.
9th.....	Wayne Kemp.....	Topeka, No. 3.
10th.....	Tony Delmont.....	Minnesota, No. 2.
11th.....	Laverne Sellars.....	Colorado, No. 7.
12th.....	Herschel Catlin.....	Arizona, No. 4.
13th.....	Frank A. Sekins.....	Idaho, No. 2.
14th.....	William Sewell.....	Texas, No. 57.
	Dr. Roy V. Gerken.....	
Blind veterans.....	John Egense, adviser.....	

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

1st.....	Joseph Del Bonis.....	Department of Rhode Island.
2d.....	Walter Hinkle.....	New Jersey, No. 10.
3d.....	Henry Rivlin, chairman.....	Pennsylvania, No. 22.
4th.....	J. O. Montagne.....	Washington, D. C., No. 5.
5th.....	Marion Williamson.....	Georgia, No. 1.
6th.....	Daniel Boone.....	Tennessee, No. 3.
7th.....	Gerald M. Smitley.....	Indiana, No. 61.
8th.....	John Richling.....	Wisconsin, No. 1.
9th.....	Judge Michael Carroll.....	St. Louis, Mo., No. 1.
10th.....	John Kalland.....	Minnesota, No. 2.
11th.....	Franklin Thayer.....	Colorado, No. 7.
12th.....	William Carson.....	Arizona, No. 1.
	Frank Douglas, alternate.....	California, No. 3.
13th.....	Perry E. Dye.....	Washington, No. 8.
14th.....	Kenneth Frazier.....	Oklahoma, No. 12.
Blind veterans.....	Dr. Roy V. Gerken.....	
	Major Omer Clark, adviser.....	
	Elmer M. Freudenberger, adviser.....	

## Convention committees—Continued

## COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL TREATMENT, HOSPITAL, AND HOSPITALIZATION

District	Member	Chapter
1st	Una Wetherby	Massachusetts, No. 3.
2d	Carmen Tressito	New Jersey, No. 3.
3d	Alvin Register	Pennsylvania, No. 52.
4th	John E. Kellam	Maryland, No. 1.
5th	Albert Cuervo	Florida, No. 4.
6th	Herman Burton	Tennessee, No. 3.
7th	Dr. Kenneth Kahr	Ohio, No. 1.
8th	Chester Clute	Michigan, No. 7.
9th	Arch Hale	Missouri, No. 2.
10th	Lillian Tharalson	Minnesota, No. 1.
11th	George Carrey	Utah, No. 6.
12th	Manuel Val	California, No. 141.
13th	Joseph Szczepanski, alternate	Arizona, No. 2.
14th	James Hudson, chairman	Oregon, No. 1.
Blind veterans	Dr. V. L. Smith	Texas, No. 11.
	James J. Miles	
	Chester Cash, adviser	

## COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE

1st	George Beatty	Massachusetts, No. 78.
2d	William Fhone	New Jersey, No. 18.
3d	L. K. Seaman	Pennsylvania, No. 47.
4th	Charles O'Leary, secretary	Maryland, No. 25.
5th	Henry W. Smith	South Carolina, No. 17.
6th	R. S. Fox	Tennessee, No. 9.
7th	Merritt Howard	Indiana, No. 1.
8th	Samuel Comella	Michigan, No. 1.
9th	Paul Redburn	Kansas, No. 7.
10th	Alex Emly	Minnesota, No. 1.
11th	Albert Edwards	Utah, No. 1.
12th	Earl Henry	California, No. 20.
	Harley Robinson, alternate	California, No. 18.
13th	Richard Pender	Idaho, No. 8.
14th	Alex Simon, chairman	Texas, No. 4.
Blind veterans	John Florena	
	Gen. Melvin Maas, adviser	

## COMMITTEE ON REHABILITATION CLAIMS AND INSURANCE

1st	James Sayre	Massachusetts, No. 44.
2d	Joseph Vecchitto	Connecticut, No. 6.
3d	Curtis Haube	Pennsylvania, No. 4.
4th	James Bieterman	West Virginia, No. 2.
5th	Fred Silver	South Carolina, No. 13.
6th	Jesse C. Hall	Alabama, No. 1.
7th	Bernard Southard, chairman	Ohio, No. 1.
8th	Scott Shroyer	Illinois, No. 1.
9th	William Leach, Jr.	Missouri, No. 1.
10th	John Sloan	Montana, No. 3.
11th	Woolas Macey	Utah, No. 6.
12th	Frank G. Wood	California, No. 49.
	James England, alternate	California, No. 17.
13th	Cloero Hogan	Oregon, No. 1.
14th	Lewis J. Murphy	Texas, No. 75.
Blind veterans	Kenneth F. Shagle	
	Cloero Hogan, adviser	
	Chester Cash, adviser	

## COMMITTEE ON RITUAL

1st	E. Elmer Baldwin	Massachusetts, No. 100.
2d	Anthony Annazone	New Jersey, No. 1.
3d	Francis Jones	Pennsylvania, No. 72.
4th	I. I. Kurhan	Washington, D. C., No. 5.
5th	Ferris Mobley	Department of South Carolina.
6th	R. B. Collingsworth	Department of Alabama.
7th	George Hendrickson	Kentucky, No. 41.
8th	John Lamo	Illinois, No. 74.
9th	Thomas Morrissey	Missouri, No. 1.
10th	A. M. Herriges	Minnesota, No. 2.
11th	Rudolph Heckler	New Mexico, No. 3.
12th	Victor Marshall	California, No. 17.
	Randolph Cooper, alternate.	Arizona, No. 1.



Convention committees—Continued

COMMITTEE ON RITUAL—Continued

District	Member	Chapter
13th.....	James L. Rock.....	Idaho, No. 6.
14th.....	Joe Adair, chairman.....	Oklahoma, No. 7.
Blind veterans.....	Doma R. Roberts..... Sylvester Hoffman, adviser. Fred Bristol, adviser. John E. Feighner, adviser.	

COMMITTEE ON TIME AND PLACE

1st.....	Joseph R. Harold, chairman.....	Massachusetts, No. 10.
2d.....	Edward Malone.....	New York, No. 29.
3d.....	Sterling Morelock.....	Pennsylvania, No. 8.
4th.....	Mary Anne Kennedy.....	Maryland, No. 3.
5th.....	Wallace Whitley.....	Department of North Carolina.
6th.....	J. B. Floyd.....	Tennessee, No. 24.
7th.....	E. A. Gafford.....	Kentucky, No. 6.
8th.....	Nick Isaacson.....	Illinois, No. 2.
9th.....	Burdette Arth.....	Missouri, No. 1.
10th.....	John Merthan.....	Minnesota, No. 2.
11th.....	Michael Norton.....	Colorado, No. 7.
12th.....	Phillip Minn.....	Hawaii, No. 1.
	John Cassara, alternate.....	California, No. 11.
13th.....	James L. Rock.....	Idaho, No. 6.
14th.....	L. D. Buckingham.....	Texas, No. 25.
Blind veterans.....	A. M. "Paddy" Driscoll..... Vivian D. Corbly, adviser.....	

National Adjutant CORBLY (continuing).

For the information of some of you who probably were not here Monday, all of those committees were elected or selected by the districts in caucus held here yesterday afternoon. None of them were appointed by the national commander, except of course the credentials committee. They were all selected as a part of the legislative maneuvers of our legislative organization. All of the advisers were appointed by the commander. All of the chairmen were designated by the national commander, but only as temporary chairmen. The committee themselves have the privilege, after the temporary chairman calls them together, of electing a permanent chairman.

As stated at the start of these announcements I would like to have particularly all of the chairmen of the committees and as many of the members of the committees to come forward in the room following the recess of this meeting so that we can make arrangements for giving out of the resolutions to the chairmen, make arrangements for your organization meetings giving you information as to the procedures to be followed clearing through the coordination committee, and room assignments.

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS (now presiding). And now the assistant national adjutant, Jack Feighner, will proceed with the drawing.

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGNER. John Florena, past national executive committeeman of the Blind Veterans Chapter, will see what he can do about drawing your name.

(Prize drawing.)

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. Thank you very much, Comrade Feighner.

The next session will commence at 9:30 a. m. in this hall tomorrow morning.

We will ask our national chaplain, the Reverend Pickett, to lead us in prayer.

National Chaplain PICKETT. We are glad to have Rabbi Louis Parris with us this morning, who will give the benediction.

Rabbi LOUIS PARRIS (Pennsylvania, No. 96). God of our fathers, we have come with grateful and hopeful hearts. We are grateful for the blessings which Thou hast bestowed upon us, and for the friendships and good fellowship symbolized by this convention. We are hopeful that at this convention and these meetings that we are having, our decisions may be wise and judicious, leading to successful and effective accomplishment. We ask this not for self, but in order to better serve God, country, and comrades. As we leave this session we pray, O Lord, our God, for Thy blessing upon all and each of us. Guide our deliberations, prosper us in our work. Amen.

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. The convention stands in recess until 9 : 30 tomorrow morning.

(Whereupon, at 1 : 25 p. m., the session was recessed until 9 : 30 a. m. the following day.)

### WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION

August 21, 1957

The third business session of the 36th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans was held in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., at 9 : 30 a. m., Wednesday, August 21, 1957. Senior Vice Commander Paul Frederick called the session to order.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. The session will come to order. Officer of the day, advance the colors.

(Colors advanced.)

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. Chaplain Rev. Pickett will lead us in the invocation.

National Chaplain PICKETT. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God. It is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations. Amen.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. While Commander Burke is expounding to the auxiliary, I will attempt to get this session rolling and we will move along for you at a good clip so we will not be here at too late an hour.

For the first report to be presented to you this morning, I would like to call to the microphone for the purpose of presenting his report, Miles Draper, the president of the Service Foundation who will present their annual report.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE DISABLED AMERICAN  
VETERANS SERVICE FOUNDATION

Comrade MILES DRAPER (DAV Service Foundation), Comrade Commander, and comrades of this convention, in accordance with the terms of the deed of trust between the Disabled American Veterans and the Disabled American Veterans Service Foundation, the foundation does herewith submit its annual report for the 1956-57 year. A copy of the annual audit prepared by Haskins & Sells, certified public accountants, is herewith submitted as a part of this report, and the same will be published in full in an early issue of the DAV Semimonthly.

At a meeting of the national executive committee of the DAV, held in San Antonio, Tex., on August 25, 1956, immediately following the national convention, the following resolution was adopted:

*Be it resolved*, That the national executive committee of the DAV now affirms that the amendment to the deed of trust adopted at the time of the Miami Beach (1954) convention proceedings in relation to projects shall not apply to annual or other word puzzle contests of skill which have been cleared by the Post Office Department, and that, anything to the contrary notwithstanding, this resolution constitutes an interpretation of said amendment by the national executive committee of the DAV which, by removing any prior implied limitation or restriction, authorizes and permits the Disabled American Veterans Service Foundation in its discretion to plan, finance, sponsor or conduct such word puzzle contests of skill.

In accordance therewith immediate plans were promulgated for the starting of another word puzzle contest designated as DAV-O-GRAM puzzle contest. A delay was incurred in starting the contest due to the regrettable hospitalization on the part of our executive director. As a result this contest is still in progress and will not be terminated until late this year, or possibly the early part of next year, depending on the number of tie breakers required to break ties for the principal prizes. In this contest we did not use advertising or extensive direct mail solicitations, thereby keeping costs to a minimum, but carried on the contest primarily amongst our former contestants and some mailings to conditioned puzzle-minded persons. At this time it appears that a small profit may be made from this contest.

Today there are millions of persons throughout the country who are puzzle-minded, particularly in word and letter puzzles used by daily newspapers for circulation purposes, and it is our opinion that if we can stay in this field and maintain contests with small profits, that sooner or later the cycle will return where we may make large money as we did some years ago. However, in order to reach that field it may be necessary for us to sacrifice a portion of our profit in order to secure adequate financial assistance with the assurance of no loss on our part.

Our board of trustees will determine at this convention our program for the coming year in this respect.

And I want to say that at our meeting it was determined that during the coming year we would suspend the operation of puzzle contests. Not to give up the field, but merely to suspend for 1 year. And at the end of that time to reevaluate the field as it looks at that time.

During the year a great deal of the time of our executive director was consumed in advancing the program of direct gifts and bequests and the establishment of trusts within the foundation. Our Bridging the Gap \* \* \* folder has been placed in the hands of innumerable persons throughout the country with the hope that results may begin to show in the foreseeable future. The Directory of Lawyers Who Are Members of the DAV, which also includes a list of the DAV national service officers, gained widespread distribution with many DAV attorneys asking to be included in our next edition.

A year ago I reported to you the receipt of a specific bequest of \$45,000 from the estate of Frederick W. Nichol of New York City. I am happy to tell you that we have received an additional \$20,025 under this will. A final payment will probably be made during this fiscal year.

During the year we received an outright gift of 27 shares of the capital stock of the Gomord Development Co., Inc., from our executive director. Our Bridging the Gap \* \* \* folder outlines how such gifts can be made to the foundation with a tax advantage to the donor.

During the year additional perpetual rehab funds—as specifically set forth in a separate schedule in the annual audit—have been established with the foundation as trustee, with the income to accrue for the purpose of perpetuating the DAV's service program within the State of origin of each such perpetual rehab fund, as explained in detail in our new Guiding Principles folder, which also includes our articles of incorporation, constitution and regulations, and our deed of trust agreement with the DAV. This grassroots idea, originally conceived by Judge John B. McClernan, former DAV national vice commander, from the State of Montana, and heartily encouraged by our executive director, could well solve the problem of perpetuating the DAV service officer program.

During the year we have also distributed thousands of reprints of an extension of remarks made in the Congressional Record on May 29, 1956, by the Honorable Charles E. Bennett, Congressman from Florida, and a life member of the DAV in Florida, and of an extension of remarks made in the Congressional Record on July 26, 1956, by the Honorable Laurence Curtis, Congressman from Massachusetts, and former national senior vice commander of the DAV and now a member of the foundation's board of trustees. Upon request to our executive director, a reasonable supply of these reprints will be made available, without any cost therefor, to any national service officer, department or chapter of the DAV. Copies of the three folders that I have mentioned are also available.

At the last national convention, held in San Antonio, Tex., the foundation was requested by the national headquarters of the DAV to make an appropriation to it of \$600,000. It was the "lobby rumor" that unless the foundation made this appropriation, three-fourths of the DAV national service officers would have to be dismissed before the end of the year, and the members of our board were severely criticized in San Antonio for not immediately granting the request. However, at a meeting of the board in early October 1956, the board not only voted to appropriate the \$600,000, but authorized an additional \$150,000 for the service program—in order that other funds of the

DAV national headquarters could be made available to finance its Hidden Treasure TV show and songram contest.

Incidentally, in fulfilling the request of national headquarters for the said appropriation it was necessary for the foundation to liquidate Government bonds which it held in order to have available funds, and in doing so the foundation sustained a loss of \$29,763.95 in the sale of the bonds. Of the appropriation, \$250,000 was paid to national headquarters prior to December 31, 1956, and \$500,000 was paid since that time. The sum of \$292,800 was allocated out of our State trust fund accounts—as shown in our audit—and the balance of \$457,200 out of our general trust account.

As a result of this appropriation our funds were greatly depleted, and at the close of our fiscal year on June 30, 1957, our audit report shows net assets of the foundation to be only \$189,124.74.

Since 1948—when we employed our full-time executive director—the DAV Service Foundation has appropriated a total of \$3,240,000 to the national headquarters of the DAV, with \$1,892,800 allocated out of State trust fund accounts and \$1,347,200 out of general trust accounts, for its use exclusively for the maintenance of the DAV's excellent nationwide rehabilitation services. DAV State departments which had cooperated as to localized fund-raising projects received \$286,796.07 over that period of time. This means that the DAV, nationally and locally, received the aggregate sum of \$3,526,796.07 during the 1949-57 period.

During the past year the foundation has suffered a loss on its board of trustees in the death of DAV Past National Commander Maple T. Harl, who never wavered through the years in his devotion to the interests of our organization.

Recently there was submitted to me the resignation as trustee of Daniel W. Bell, chairman of the board and president of the American Security & Trust Co., of Washington, D. C., to take effect at the conclusion of this convention. In spite of the fact that he was not eligible to membership in our organization, he has contributed years of unselfish service in the interest of the Disabled American Veterans.

Your foundation is now at bedrock. What we will be able to accomplish in the future will largely depend upon the dedicated service and ability of our executive director. His entire life has been devoted to the welfare of this organization. He is a sincere, conscientious patriot who lives and breathes the cause for which the foundation was founded. Our board of trustees has utmost confidence in him, which we know will be shared in by the rank and file members of the Disabled American Veterans.

Our great potentialities can and should be developed in the future, primarily based upon the persistent cooperation of the DAV, nationally and locally, through frequent publicity in all DAV publications, bulletins, pertinent letters to the more generous Indent-O-Tag donors accompanied by Congressional Record reprints and/or "Bridging the Gap \* \* \*" folders, et cetera. As more and more DAV members and units establish special perpetual memorial service trusts with the foundation, and as more individual members designate it as a beneficiary in their insurance policies, and wills, and make more direct donations, more and more social-minded Americans will follow such ex-

amples of sincere support of the program of extending more much needed services, through the Disabled American Veterans, to, for, and by America's disabled defenders.

HASKINS & SELLS,  
*Baltimore, Md., August 1, 1957.*

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS' SERVICE FOUNDATION,  
*Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIRs: We have examined the financial statements of Disabled American Veterans' Service Foundation for the year ended June 30, 1957, listed below:

Balance sheet, June 30, 1957 and 1956, and comparison (exhibit A):

State trust accounts, by States (schedule 1).

Perpetual rehabilitation funds (schedule 2).

Summary of operations—Fund-raising projects for the year ended June 30, 1957 (exhibit B).

Summary of funds in trust for the year ended June 30, 1957 (exhibit C).

Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances; as to receipts from fund-raising projects it was not practicable because of the nature of such receipts to extend the examination beyond accounting, on a test basis, for the receipts as recorded in the books of accounts. We have made similar examinations for the preceding 18 years.

In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheet and related summaries of operations and of funds in trust present fairly the financial position of the foundation at June 30, 1957, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Yours truly,

HASKINS & SELLS.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS SERVICE FOUNDATION

EXHIBIT A.—Balance sheet, June 30, 1957 and 1956, and comparison

	June 30—		Increase (decrease)
	1957	1956	
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash.....	\$90,278.54	\$278,905.91	(\$188,627.37)
Account receivable, puzzle contest.....		6,525.00	(6,525.00)
Amount receivable as legatee under will.....		22,500.00	(22,500.00)
Accrued interest and other account receivable.....	2,925.00	5,844.28	(2,919.28)
U. S. Government obligations:			
Savings bonds, series G (at cost)—redemption value \$192,200 (1957) and \$572,400 (1956):			
Due December 1961.....		100,000.00	(100,000.00)
Due January 1962.....	100,000.00	100,000.00	
Due October 1962.....		300,000.00	(300,000.00)
Due January 1963.....	100,000.00	100,000.00	
Savings bonds, series F (at redemption value).....	21.52	45.87	(24.35)
Treasury bonds 2½ percent (at amortized cost)—market value \$191,995.81:			
Due Sept. 15, 1967-72.....		93,999.36	(93,999.36)
Due Dec. 15, 1967-72.....		103,041.92	(103,041.92)
Total, U. S. Government obligations.....	200,021.52	797,087.15	(597,065.63)
Other assets:			
Service Foundation, Inc. (wholly owned corporation):			
Capital stock, 100 shares of \$1 par value each at cost.....	100.00	100.00	
Advances.....	3,210.48	3,210.48	
Loring Development Co., Inc. (12,000 shares of capital stock) and interest in possible future royalty income from Martin Stationette patents and related rights, at nominal value.....	1.00	1.00	
Gomord Development Co., Inc. (27 shares of capital stock), at nominal value.....	1.00		1.00
List of pen project donors' names, at nominal value.....	1.00	1.00	
Total other assets.....	3,313.48	3,312.48	1.00
Total.....	296,538.54	1,114,174.80	(817,636.26)
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUNDS</b>			
Puzzle contests:			
Liability for contest prize awards.....	31,960.00	57,370.00	(25,410.00)
Reserve for contest completion, contingencies, etc.....	70,060.76	68,125.48	1,935.28
Other.....	4,471.29	3,219.97	1,251.32
Total, puzzle contests.....	106,492.05	128,715.45	(22,223.40)
Participation in fund-raising projects, Disabled American Veterans State departments.....		8,671.60	(8,671.60)
Miscellaneous.....	921.75	103.75	818.00
Total.....	107,413.80	137,490.80	(30,077.00)
Funds in trust, exhibit C:			
General trust account.....	82,787.63	223,408.48	(140,620.85)
State trust accounts, schedule 1.....	91,088.41	375,104.47	(284,016.06)
Special trust accounts:			
Irving J. Phillipson Rehabilitation Fund.....	11,348.70	13,338.70	(1,990.00)
Perpetual rehabilitation funds, schedule 2.....	3,900.00	2,100.00	1,800.00
Funds unallocated to general and State trust accounts.....		362,732.35	(362,732.35)
Total funds in trust.....	189,124.74	976,684.00	(787,559.26)
Total.....	296,538.54	1,114,174.80	(817,636.26)

## THIRTY-SEVENTH NATIONAL REPORT

*EXHIBIT B.—Summary of operations—Fund-raising projects for the year ended June 30, 1957*

Contributions (less \$3,517.34 solicitation expense).....	\$24,540.37
8th puzzle contest: Excess of preliminary operating costs over net entry fees received to June 30, 1957 (contest entry fees are receivable until July 30, 1957): Entry fees, dictionary sales, and related contributions—net.....	\$71,182.38
<hr/>	
Costs:	
Prizes and bonuses, maximum.....	\$31,960.00
Direct mail solicitation.....	19,726.40
Printing and supplies.....	8,865.34
Postage and other mailing expenses..	1,019.65
Mechanical and art charges.....	1,507.43
Processing .....	5,434.76
Legal fees and technical services....	2,950.00
Other .....	256.02
	<hr/>
	71,719.60
	<hr/>
Excess of costs since inception over net entry fees, etc.....	537.22
Less costs incurred prior to July 1, 1956.....	313.30
	<hr/>
Excess of costs over net entry fees, etc., for the year ended June 30, 1957.....	223.92
Other fund-raising projects: Excess of expenses over proceeds of \$117.06.....	3,565.80
	<hr/>
	3,789.72
	<hr/>
Net proceeds from fund-raising projects before unapportioned general expenses.....	20,750.65



EXHIBIT C.—Summary of funds in trust for the year ended June 30, 1957

	Total	General trust account	State trust accounts (schedule 1)	Special trust accounts		Funds unallocated to general and State trust accounts
				Irving J. Phillipson rehabilitation fund	Perpetual rehabilitation funds (schedule 2)	
Funds in trust, July 1, 1956	\$976,684.00	\$223,408.48	\$375,104.47	\$13,338.70	\$2,100	\$362,732.35
Additions:						
Allocation to general trust account under par. (a) of sec. 2 of art. VI of the constitution and regulations as amended		362,732.35				(362,732.35)
Funds held in trust pending formation of State departments transferred to State trust accounts, upon authorization of board of trustees, since no State departments were formed	8,671.60		8,671.60			
Net proceeds from fund raising projects before unapportioned general expenses, exhibit B	20,750.65	20,750.65				
Income from investments in U. S. Government obligations and from savings deposits	14,620.65	14,620.65				
Income allowed perpetual rehabilitation funds		(112.34)	112.34			
Amounts received for perpetual rehabilitation funds	1,800.00				1,800	
Total	1,022,526.90	621,399.79	383,888.41	13,338.70	3,900	
Deductions:						
Appropriations to Disabled American Veterans national headquarters under the constitution and regulations (art. VI, par. (b) of sec. 2 and par. (c) of sec. 3)	750,000.00	457,200.00	292,800.00			
General expenses (see note)	51,648.21	51,648.21				
Loss from sale of investments in U. S. Government obligations	29,763.95	29,763.95				
Appropriation from Irving J. Phillipson rehabilitation fund for 1957 calendar cards	1,990.00			1,990.00		
Total	833,402.16	538,612.16	292,800.00	1,990.00		
Funds in trust, June 30, 1957	189,124.74	82,787.63	91,088.41	11,348.70	3,900	

NOTE.—The general expenses for the year ended June 30, 1957, aggregated \$51,648.21 and consisted of salaries and other compensation, \$23,814.36; travel expenses, \$9,589.05; office rental, equipment, and supplies, \$2,394.99; professional services, \$5,877.10; employee welfare (including social security taxes), \$6,991.95; printing, publicity, and postage, \$1,014.95; and other expenses, \$1,965.81.

## SCHEDULE 1.—State trust accounts, by States, for the year ended June 30, 1957

	Balances June 30, 1956	Add transfer of funds which were held in trust pending forma- tion of State de- partments (see note)	Add transfer of in- come al- lowed per- petual re- habilita- tion funds	Deduct appropria- tion to Dis- abled American Veterans national head- quarters	Balances June 30, 1957
Alabama.....	\$8,159.24			\$5,900	\$2,259.24
Arizona.....	90.01				90.01
Arkansas.....	10.51				10.51
California.....	56,146.44			47,500	8,646.44
Colorado.....	1,632.35			1,600	32.35
Connecticut.....	6,033.59			6,000	33.59
Delaware.....	3.05	\$389.95		300	73.00
District of Columbia.....	25.35		\$1.67		27.02
Florida.....	5,806.42			5,800	5.42
Georgia.....	745.99			700	45.99
Idaho.....	816.15			800	16.15
Illinois.....	31,541.16			25,900	5,641.16
Indiana.....	18,639.50			11,000	7,639.50
Iowa.....	9,093.95			9,000	93.95
Kansas.....	17,779.51			6,600	11,179.51
Kentucky.....	2,378.71			2,200	78.71
Louisiana.....	4,378.36			4,300	78.36
Maine.....	4,174.96			4,100	74.96
Maryland.....	12,466.51		3.00	10,000	2,469.51
Massachusetts.....	191.04			100	91.04
Michigan.....	24,677.65		3.00	24,600	80.65
Minnesota.....	23,445.46		6.00	11,100	12,351.46
Mississippi.....	134.65			100	34.65
Missouri.....	2,041.85	7,652.24		9,600	94.09
Montana.....	3,070.49		98.67	3,000	169.16
Nebraska.....	8,037.68			6,300	1,737.68
Nevada.....	30.15				30.15
New Hampshire.....	168.42			100	68.42
New Jersey.....	14,933.22			14,900	33.22
New Mexico.....	67.13				67.13
New York.....	1,756.20			1,700	56.20
North Carolina.....	10,071.64			8,200	1,871.64
North Dakota.....	583.46			500	83.46
Ohio.....	600.18			600	.18
Oklahoma.....	6,056.15			6,000	56.15
Oregon.....	8,285.76			8,200	85.76
Pennsylvania.....	1,977.94			1,900	77.94
Rhode Island.....	1(314.62)				1(314.62)
South Carolina.....	637.02			600	37.02
South Dakota.....	851.49			800	51.49
Tennessee.....	12,685.82			8,300	4,385.82
Texas.....	21,585.24			21,500	85.24
Utah.....	733.89			700	33.89
Vermont.....	17.08				17.08
Virginia.....	22,866.49			7,800	15,066.49
Washington.....	7,451.65			7,400	51.65
West Virginia.....	109.05			100	9.05
Wisconsin.....	22,338.04			6,300	16,038.04
Wyoming.....	79.34				79.34
Territories.....	14.25	649.41		600	63.66
Total.....	375,104.47	8,671.60	112.34	292,800	91,088.14

<sup>1</sup> Debit balance.

NOTE.—The foundation, having held funds in trust for Delaware, Missouri, and Territories, etc., pending formation of State departments, transferred these funds to State trust accounts upon the authorization of the board of trustees since no State departments were formed.

SCHEDULE 2.—Perpetual rehabilitation funds, June 30, 1957 and 1956

	June 30	
	1957	1956
Butte Chapter No. 6, DAV, Montana.....	\$1,000	\$1,000
Department of Montana, DAV.....	1,000	1,000
Auxiliary to Butte Chapter No. 6, DAV, Montana.....	100	100
Howard E. Merhar, Montana.....	100	100
McCaffery, Roe & Klely, Montana.....	100	100
Sydney J. Allen, Michigan.....	100	100
Frank A. Howard and James L. Monnahan, Minnesota.....	100	100
Gen. Melvin J. Maas, Maryland.....	100	100
Millard W. Rice, Minnesota.....	100	100
Lewis and Clark Chapter No. 3, DAV, Montana.....	100	100
Dr. Francis B. Burgess, District of Columbia.....	100	100
Great Falls Chapter No. 2, DAV, Montana.....	800	800
Anaconda Chapter No. 13, DAV, Montana.....	100	100
Bozeman Chapter No. 12, DAV, Montana.....	100	100
John Richling, Jr. (Einar Johnson), Wisconsin.....	100	100
Department of Arkansas, DAV.....	100	100
Shelby Chapter No. 15, DAV, Montana.....	100	100
Ladies Auxiliary to Shelby Chapter No. 15, DAV, Montana.....	100	100
Miles City Chapter No. 19, DAV, Montana.....	100	100
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>3,900</b>	<b>2,100</b>

Comrade DRAPER (continuing). Mr. Commander, I move you that this report be received and referred to the appropriate committee.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. You have heard the motion. Is there a second?

Comrade ARTHUR PULLIAM (Department of Tennessee). Second the motion.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. You have heard the motion made and seconded that this report be received by us and sent to the proper convention committee. All in favor, say aye. Contrary no. Carried.

Comrade DRAPER. As you all know, each year the foundation elects one member to its board of trustees for a term of 5 years, which requires confirmation by the national convention. I understand that this will have to be deferred until we get a report of the credentials committee but after that has been done I wish to present our selection for the board of trustees and urge that you confirm this selection.

Thank you, Mr. Commander.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. Thank you, Comrade Draper. At this time, would the officer of the day check the outer room to see if the national commander of the Women's Auxiliary is about to present herself to us?

OFFICER OF THE DAY. She is present. Shall I escort her in?

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. I know we all will extend a very, very warm and gracious welcome and hand as she joins us this morning.

(The convention rose to applaud Mrs. Helen Ishmael, commander of the Women's Auxiliary.)

National Commander BURKE (now presiding). Each year the national commander of the DAV is very fortunate in the fact that he is given a counterpart in the Ladies Auxiliary, to help him work out his term of office. I have been so rewarded. I would like to say of Helen that there is nothing that we have asked her to do that she hasn't performed to the best of her ability. She has worked hard in our interests. A lot of the credit for legislation and other things, if

we are honest in our hearts, we know that the ladies of our Auxiliary have a great part to play in its passage.

Therefore, it is my pleasure and privilege to present to you this morning one of those gracious, fine, understanding women who make up our Auxiliary and in their good sense was elevated to the job of national commander at the convention in San Antonio. It gives me the greatest of pleasure to bring before this convention the national commander of the Ladies Auxiliary, Mrs. Helen Ishmael.

National Commander Mrs. HELEN ISHMAEL (DAV Auxiliary). Thank you, Joe.

National Commander Burke, national officers, and delegates to the 36th Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, it has been my privilege and my pleasure to serve as national commander of your Auxiliary this past year. I have traveled thousands of miles and have been received most graciously by your members and the members of the auxiliaries, and for all of this I am deeply grateful.

Our entire program this year has been carried on under the capable leadership of our national officers and the various committee chairmen and at this time I should like to give you a résumé of the work accomplished.

During the year I visited 38 VA hospitals, 5 State hospitals, 3 naval hospitals, spending from 2 to 3 hours at each, learning firsthand of the work that is being done by our volunteers. Our national VAVS chairman, Thelma Feighner, has reported 3,994 members gave 77,232 hours of service in VA hospitals and our auxiliaries spent \$103,423.65 in these same facilities. Our national hospital chairman, Florence Green, reports 59,627 hours given, and \$163,023.13 spent in non-VA hospitals. Over \$2,000 was spent by our auxiliaries in our program at Carville, La.

Legislation: Our auxiliaries sponsor no legislation independently but are ever alert to the legislation sponsored by you, the parent organization. Our membership is notified through our national legislative chairman when letters should be written to their Senators and Congressmen. This year, units sent 10,218 letters to their Senators and Congressmen. The telegrams sent to United States Senators and Congressmen numbered 345 and 889 personal contacts were made on legislation.

In our community service our auxiliaries are most concerned with the well-being and proper development of our communities. This year our members gave 109,000 hours of volunteer service, and donated over \$12,000.

In child welfare we of the Auxiliary stress this phase of our program by working with children's groups. We strive to teach them the ideals of our country and that they have no fear for the future if they and the others of their generation are faithful to these ideals and pass them on to succeeding generations. Hours spent by our members working on child welfare projects this past year amount to 147,034. Money expended amounted to \$320,146.60.

Americanism: Now, as never before, must we be alert to the dangers that threaten our country. Our auxiliaries are carrying on a fine Americanism program. Many patriotic programs were held this past year. Members helped with the classwork of naturalized citizens and our records show that we have increased this part of our program tremendously.

National Commander Burke, it has been my pleasure to serve with you. Our paths have not crossed often but when they have, you have always been most kind and cooperative and I do want you to know that I appreciate it.

To the national officers, national executive committeemen, service officers, State officers, and all chapters, my sincere thanks for your kindness to me while I served as national commander of your auxiliary. My best wishes go with you for a new year of great accomplishment. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. Will some of you handsome volunteers come forward and escort the national president of the Ladies Auxiliary from the convention?

(Mrs. Ishmael was escorted from the convention.)

National Commander BURKE. And now, so we can get into some of the business of our convention, I am going to ask that man from Denver, Colo., with the mustache and that shining gray hair, good friend of ours for many years, and always been given the difficult job, it is my pleasure to bring before the convention for a preliminary report, Franklin Thayer.

Comrade FRANKLIN THAYER (chairman, credentials committee). Thank you, Commander.

This report seems to be one of the necessary evils of the convention. You have voted long since that no chapter who owes any amount whatsoever to the national organization will have a right to cast a vote on the floor of the convention.

There are a number of chapters who owe various amounts to the national organization. It is quite possible that no chapter who is represented here owes any amount, but it is necessary to go through the entire list of those chapters who owe anything and I am going to do it as expeditiously as possible. If there is any question about whether or not your particular chapter has been called, you can see me or go to headquarters and clear the matter up. If you are here and you are a delegate and your chapter owes some money to the national headquarters you better take care of it if you expect to cast a vote.

I will call these by State numbers and I will omit the name of the chapter, but call the number of the chapter and the amount of indebtedness.

(Preliminary report of credentials committee.)

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK (now presiding). You have heard the preliminary reading of the credentials committee. The Chair will entertain a motion that the preliminary report of this credentials committee be received as a part of the report so that our business can be entered into.

Comrade JAMES NOCERA (Department of Ohio). I so move.

Comrade W. R. STEPHENS (Commander, Chapter No. 45 Atlanta, Ga.). Would you please place 3 or 4 sergeants at arms in the rear and stop me and the rest of us from talking so much so that those who want to hear can hear?

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. We will be able to take care of that.

Comrade GEORGE HENDRICKSON (Kentucky, No. 41). Second the motion.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. To expedite matters and in order that everyone can understand what is going on, we would appreciate those making motions, seconding them, if you would please step to the microphone and speak right into it, every one will hear what you have to say.

There has been a motion made and seconded that the partial report of the credentials committee be received as part of the report. All in favor, say "aye." Opposed, "no." Carried.

The Chair recognizes Comrade Miles Draper for his remarks.

Comrade MILES DRAPER. Thank you, Mr. Commander. I guess it is legal now although you all don't look different to me than you did 5 minutes ago.

As I stated at that time, it is necessary that the convention each year confirm the election of a trustee of the service foundation which election is made at the time of the convention. At our meeting on Sunday we elected as a trustee for a period of 5 years subject to your approval, the hard working and very fine national commander that we have had during the past year. We figure if he can work for the foundation the way he has worked for the DAV it will be a wonderful thing for our foundation.

I, therefore, Mr. Commander, move that this convention ratify and approve the selection of Commander Joe Burke as a trustee of the Service Foundation for a period of 5 years.

Comrade FRANK T. GARRETT (Cincinnati, No. 1). Second the motion.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. You have heard the motion and second. Any remarks? All those in favor, signify by saying, "aye."

Contrary, "no."

Carried.

Comrade DRAPER. Now, Mr. Commander, I wish to perform my last act as the chairman of your service foundation. I have served as chairman of the service foundation since the death of Bill Tate in 1949. He was the first chairman of the foundation, and on my trip up here to this convention I took a short detour and went to Belton, S. C. where Bill Tate was buried and many of us were there at the time of his funeral on a very rainy day. I laid some flowers on the grave of Bill Tate and the headstone which had been placed at Bill Tate's funeral gives his name, the year of his birth, the year of his death, and then the words, "National Commander, Disabled American Veterans" and the year that he served. I gave a little silent prayer to our old comrade, whom many of us have loved and worked with for so many years.

Now I don't have to die in office the way he did but at our meeting the other day the trustees selected as chairman of the foundation a man whom all of you know. You have respected, you have served under him over a period of years, and I know he will bring to the foundation a great deal of spirit, enthusiasm, and effort. And I wish to now introduce to you the chairman of your service foundation, John Golob.

Comrade JOHN GOLOB. Greetings. For your information we have not let Miles get away from us completely. We want the benefit of his many years of service and he has been reelected for another period of years.

It is my sincere hope that the majority, most of us, are going to meet again in 1958 and that the report that you hear at that time is going to be pleasant.

Thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE (now presiding). I want a hand from this convention. I want a hand for a group of guys that are coming in here. We may have our differences at times and sometimes we have our little kidding around, but they work hard in the interests of the DAV. They are good DAV men.

Will the sergeant of the guard escort the Imperial Van of the Order of the Trench Rats to the platform?

(The Imperial Van of the Order of the Trench Rats was escorted to the platform.)

National Commander BURKE. I am going to introduce to you now from Pawtucket, R. I., the imperial golden rodent this year, Charley Gorman, who will introduce the members of his staff.

Imperial Golden Rodent CHARLES V. GORMAN (Trench Rats). Thank you, Comrade commander.

Comrade commander, comrades, brother rats, ladies, and friends. I bring you the greetings from the Imperial Council and the Imperial Van from the National Order of Trench Rats. First of all I thank God that I am able to be here and thank our comrades, our national commander, and the national adjutant for all the cooperation and every consideration that has been extended to the National Order of Trench Rats and the fine program that has been arranged for us at this time. Thanks to all the committees and to the help of the members of the committee that makes this possible.

We are brothers and our brother's keeper and we are mindful of our responsibility to their welfare and their best interests. That is my story, that we may always cling together. God bless you until we meet again.

My brothers, I have a very urgent issue to give you. Tonight, Brother Rats, the annual rendezvous will be held at the American Legion Post 665 Troop 1, at 432 Franklin Avenue, this city. Four blocks from here at 8:00 p. m. sharp. We want you to come, one and all, Brother Rats.

Now I shall introduce to you personally, each member of the imperial van.

Jack L. Link, silver rodent.

Comrade brother Crummack, imperial blue rodent.

Ah Kee Leong, imperial bubonic plague.

Lyle D. Spencer, black plague.

Ivor Willibuy, imperial holy rat.

Maurice Sweeney, imperial bench rat.

Jack Sagray, imperial iron claw.

Earl Merrifield, the imperial red eye gnawer.

Joseph M. Casey, imperial historic rat.

I would also like to introduce to you two hard-working Rats for the DAV and that is your national commander, Joe Burke, and also your national adjutant, Vivian D. Corbly.

I don't know why they put me in this spot because I am just a flunky for the organization but if any of you Rats haven't come to me and given me your \$2 I wish you would do it so I can go home and get a little rest before tonight.

(The Imperial Van withdrew from the platform.)

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK (now presiding). Joe, at this time I will introduce to you a member of the Greater Buffalo Chapter and he is representing the Canadian Legion, at this time and I would like to present to you, Mr. George Johnson.

Comrade GEORGE JOHNSON (Buffalo, N. Y.). Comrade commander and comrades, the commander of the Middle States asked me to come and bring you his greetings and best wishes for a successful convention.

The Canadian veterans in this country have a hard road to travel and we do all we can but it is pretty tough.

Thank you very much.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. At this time we will pause just a moment while I ask the sergeant-at-arms to request that any of the comrades who might be seated or standing outside the hall, to please come into the hall as we are about to receive the report of our national commander. The least we can do for him is to give him a few minutes when he has given us 12 full months, so would the sergeant-at-arms request that those who are outside in the hall please enter and be seated.

I have been requested in the past to make very few introductions to any extent so this really is the first time that I have ever had the privilege and the pleasure and honor of introducing to you a present national commander. Last year at San Antonio, Tex., I was given the honor and elevated to the spot of national senior vice commander and had pledged my full support and cooperation to commander Burke. As the year progressed and we got further along during his term, my opportunities to meet him became more frequent.

About 4 months ago when the various departments started to have their conventions our paths crossed even more often. Being in his company quite often at the start was a little strange probably to both of us because rubbing elbows a little from one will rub off on the other, and after about the first trip we made together we really struck up a good friendship. I might give you a few points how we did get along.

You know Joe can do most everything for himself but you have definite time commitments on some of these conventions, you have to be certain places certain times and to help him pick up a few minutes here and there I would say, "Commander, can I help you?"

He would say, "Well, yes, can you tie a tie?"

I said, "Well, to tell you the truth, yes, but not when you are standing up. You will have to lie down." He would lie down for a couple of minutes. Then when I was home and back on the job I would get fellows around me and I'd practice tying the tie with him standing up. So about the second or third time I was with Commander Burke I got so I could tie his tie standing up and we made better time then.

In some instances I was his bodyguard. You know, being a bachelor he makes all these acquaintances with the members of the Auxiliary and sometimes they have boy friends and they get their feathers ruffled and I'd say, "Calm down," and we got along very well, I will say.

I need not expound too greatly about Commander Burke. You certainly have had ample opportunities in this past year to see his devoted interests, his zeal to do a good job, for the organization and for you individual members. And in the course of his report and in



other information that will come to you, you, without a doubt, will be definitely of the opinion that he is on the place of one of the highest pedestals of the organization's history.

I don't think I need say too much more because Joe, in his report to you, certainly will give you evidence of everything that I have said up to this point. So without any further words, it is my honor to present to you your national commander for this 1956-57 year that we have just completed. Commander Burke.

(The convention rose to applaud Commander Burke.)

National Commander JOSEPH F. BURKE. On August 24, 1956, at San Antonio, Tex., there was conferred upon me the greatest honor any disabled veteran could acquire—the honor of being elected national commander of the Disabled American Veterans.

During the past year I have attempted, to the best of my ability, to live up to the faith and confidence of that convention. During this year I have traveled, as much as I could possibly schedule, and made appearances that would bring me into as many States as time would permit. This, under any circumstances, is not an easy task. To those States I failed to visit during the year, such as Minnesota where I was invited three times and was unable to appear, I express my keen regret but there just was not enough time in the day or days in the week to permit me to visit all departments.

In many respects it has not been an easy year. There are frustrations in the job of national commander; there are difficulties which are not foreseen when one is elevated to the position. The difficulties which ensue can only be met at the time of their occurrence. There are no mandates or policies which would give a complete answer so it rests solely with the individual and those whose advice and counsel he seeks. So at this time I will discuss with you some of the main functions of our organization and try to give as concise a report as possible, and at the same time point out the impossibility of developing in a report of this nature every daily occurrence during my term of office.

One of the most important activities we have is legislative. I would like to thank publicly Maj. Omer W. Clark, the national director of legislation, and his assistant, Elmer M. Freudenberger, for their close cooperation with your national commander and express to them my gratitude for their wise counsel and guidance.

The legislative activities of my term of office were many and varied and were designed to assist and complement in every feasible way the efforts put forth by the director of legislation and his assistant to further the DAV legislative program.

On October 5, 1956, your national commander, national director of legislation, and national director of claims called on the President at the White House and there went over with the Chief Executive the legislative objectives of the Disabled American Veterans and presented him with a complete set of the resolutions adopted at the San Antonio national convention of August 1956. Between that convention and the opening of the 85th Congress on January 3, 1957, conferences were held, attended by your national commander and DAV legislative representatives, with certain key figures of the Senate and House, and arrangements were made to have a DAV compensation increase bill introduced on the opening day by the chairman of

the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Representative Olin E. Teague.

Subsequent to the convening of the new Congress, other conferences were held from time to time with prominent chairmen and members of important committees of the Senate and House and steps were taken to have a companion bill to H. R. 52 introduced in the Senate. This was done early in the session and that bill became S. 535. On March 7, 1957, appearances were made by the national commander and certain national officers, including the director of legislation, before the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, at which time formal statements were made and questions discussed and answered on the subject of VA medical and hospital construction and operations. The testimony given at that open hearing by the national commander, director of legislation, and others was reported in the DAV Semi-monthly and, of course, is of public record in the publication printed for the use of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

On March 12, 1957, your national commander, on invitation, made an appearance before the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs and outlined the DAV legislative program for the first session of the 85th Congress. This statement, too, was reported in the semi-monthly and is included in a committee publication.

It was soon apparent, after Congress convened for this term, that the only bill that had a chance of passage was one that would involve Government expenditures substantially less than called for by the DAV proposals. As the session progressed it became even more evident that any veterans legislation involving considerable cost would have an uphill fight to become law. The major recognized veterans' organizations therefore united behind H. R. 52 and despite its more modest monetary demands nearly 3 months elapsed after the favorable committee action before a rule could be obtained from the House Committee on Rules to bring the measure out for a floor vote. As you know, the House passed the bill on May 13, 1957, and it was then delayed until July 18, 1957, before the Senate Committee on Finance reported it out.

In connection with that, when we reported it out Senator Harry Byrd of Virginia kept his word. Senator Harry Byrd of Virginia had told me 3 months previous in a conversation, where Major Clark was present, that that bill would be reported if it passed the House to the Senate Finance Committee. The bill was reported out of the House, there were those who told me that Senator Byrd wouldn't keep his word. Senator Byrd is a man who is economically minded. Everybody knows that. But he not only kept his word, he introduced it on the floor of the Senate, supported it, and asked for the other Senators to support it. So the gentleman from Virginia is not, in my opinion, antidisabled veteran. [Applause.]

I want to also report to you that that bill has left the Senate floor and is on the President's desk. We are torn between rumors and reports. A lot of people have assured me that the bill is going to pass. Some people have told me it might be vetoed. We put in a lot of time, a lot of expense, of our chapters, but I think after the session this morning is over those of you who can reach the telegraph office in the name of your State or your delegation had better start sending telegrams to the White House to let them know there is a disabled veterans convention in Buffalo. I feel better when we are doing some-

thing about it. I don't like sitting still waiting for something to happen. Maybe those telegrams will tip the balance, I don't know. I am not happy because it has not been signed by the White House. It was passed unanimously by the House and the Senate. It is probably something that we can be most proud of because this is an off-election year and we got it through those august bodies. If at this stage of the game we should lose H. R. 52 it would be a terrible thing for the disabled veterans of this country. So we had better get some work done.

On employment, I cannot praise the national director of employment, John W. Burris, too highly. As you know, we had some problems and John always stood fast and firm alongside of me when things looked blackest.

Early this year we received complaints from many different parts of the country that many disabled veterans employed in civilian jobs at various Naval Air Stations were receiving notices of downgrading specifically because of the service-connected disabilities. These demotions resulted after the Navy had established a new "intermediate" rating. We promptly dispatched a telegram to the White House, after consultation with some congressional leaders and others, requesting that the Navy stop the practice of downgrading these disabled veteran employees pending further study of the situation. It is late enough in the game to tell you something why I was so sure of Olin Teague being a friend of disabled veterans. When it was finally brought to my attention in Mobile, Ala., by Garrett and he showed me some of the examples of the letters the Navy was writing to disabled veterans, I called that gentleman long distance. He told me, "There is only one thing to do, Joe. If you are right this has been going on for 2 years; give them hell. Send a telegram to the White House, send a telegram to me, and we'll see what the Navy is doing."

We did, and Olin Teague told the Navy if they didn't answer the questions we had to ask they would answer them before a House committee. They didn't want to come before a House committee so they listened to your national commander and John Burris. And we discussed this thing at great length.

We are particularly pleased with this result as it should serve as a warning to other agencies that might in the future attempt to demote service-connected disabled veterans and other handicapped individuals purely because of their physical limitations.

Now understand what that means. It is a hard enough job to get a job when you are a handicapped person. But if the agencies which are in the Government only because it was successfully defended against active aggression should now feel the disabled veteran has outlived his usefulness, I couldn't see much hope in this country for private interests. And that was the danger in that situation and I want to say to you, because I am determined this morning since I got up at 6 o'clock working in your interests, and I have heard some comments around the halls that maybe some of you ought to do a little thinking once in a while.

There were those in this organization, to paraphrase a remark we made on the floor the other day, there were those high placed in this organization, and I am talking about levels of State commanders and so forth, who attempted and called Mr. Corbly on the long-

distance telephone and communicated with him and said, "Tell your national commander to lay off." Mr. Corbly told them, "For your information, my national commander hasn't even consulted me about it because he doesn't have to. If he is right he is going to do what is right, and I am not going to change him because in the first place I don't want to and in the second place if he wasn't right he wouldn't be doing what he is doing."

The Air Force has recently announced a new Air Reserve technician plan that will vitally affect both its military and civilian employees at many of its installations and we have been assured by the Air Force and the United States Civil Service Commission, after the Navy incident when they were proposing some things which might have affected us the same way, but in view of what had been accomplished by your organization in Washington they now say that those employees who decline or who are not eligible for Reserve membership will be reassigned at the same or higher grade to non-Air Force Reserve technician positions in the same geographic area as jobs become available to which they may be moved with (1) no reduction in force; (2) no demotions; and (3) no required transfers to other geographic areas. Legislation is now pending that would prevent the demotion of blue-collar wage-board employees with satisfactory records, which we hope will receive favorable consideration in the next session. And get this: As of December 31 last year, Uncle Sam had a total of 219,252 disabled veteran civilian employees—a larger figure than our DAV membership in good standing as of June 30. The DAV has, from its inception, fought to preserve, protect, and defend the best interests of such employees. We played no small part in the enactment of the Veterans Preference Act of 1944, as amended, and it is high time that more of these disabled veteran Federal employees become active members of the DAV. They owe it to us because we did it for them.

Now let's talk about membership. It's a very important and integral part of a report such as this. We can all take some measure of pride in the fact that we increased our membership from a total of 191,565 as on June 30, 1956, to an alltime high of 196,750 as of June 30, 1957, a net increase of 5,185. And yet we have to face some salient facts. These figures only represent a minor percentage of those eligible to our organization. I have not, nor do I know of anyone in the DAV, who has any solution to the overall problem. That is, any single individual solution. It is still, in my opinion and those whose opinions I value, such as Bonnie Maile, whose membership campaign in Michigan is productive of their winning a membership award this year, and we have agreed that it boils down to hard work, individual hard work starting with the member himself, with the chapter, with the State department, with the national department.

I believe funds should be allotted to conduct a membership campaign by chapters, by State departments, and by the national department. Also there should be an expansion of information which would culminate in a brochure being issued, to be sent out to every membership chapter and printed in the Semimonthly, on the best methods for raising our membership. From my point of view, if all these sound membership ideas are incorporated and made available to the interested parties we would take a long step in developing our membership potential.

This is no easy task. In a small way we have tried to do that this year, but we haven't even begun to do the job. Again, I must remind you, as I have in some of the States while on tour, one of our best sources of revenue is membership. Quickly repeating what I have written in my commander's column and at every opportunity I got on a DAV platform, that if we had 500,000 to 750,000 members, the revenue would be over \$1 million which would go a long way to alleviate any financial concern we might have now or in the future.

I honestly do not believe that these figures are unapproachable. There are still cities and towns in this country which have no chapter and you know as well as I that many of these places could support a chapter. Many chapters, I am sorry to say, are not doing anything about developing their membership potential and one of our greatest problems has always been the 20 to 25 percent loss in annual memberships every year. To paraphrase what happens, "They come in the front door of the chapter and go out the back door," every year. Life membership, of course, is an answer to this problem. But even if the members only remain annual members and we were successful in retaining them in the DAV, for the information of this convention, believe it or not, that 500,000 total would have been reached. The fact of the matter is that of the 2 million or so eligible for our organization, many of them have in the past, been members of the DAV. We have just lost them along the way.

Now I want to talk about something we are going to talk about a little bit later in this convention. And I want to just tell you a few facts and I am going to use some figures and about three pages because I want to put before this convention actually what happens with some of the work of our public relations department, Julian Jackson and his employees. And I don't care what this convention does because I, as an individual, only have one vote, but I am going to give you the report and I want somebody to tell me my figures are wrong or what I say is wrong because this is what I know has been done.

Everywhere that I have had the privilege of visiting this year the cooperation from newspapers, and radio and television stations was excellent. I want to commend the State departments and local chapters for arranging this fine publicity. Through the use of the national commander's press book distributed by our national publicity department, plus the initiative of department and chapter publicity officers and officials, the recognition obtained for the DAV as a result of the national commander's visit was outstanding. I say this with all due modesty because Julian Jackson tells me that the clippings gathered this past year show more lineage for the DAV than in previous years. This is a tribute to the prestige of the office of national commander of your organization, no matter who he may be.

Our publicity program is one of the most effective means we have of enlarging our membership, increasing our Ident-O-Tag returns, and bringing to the attention of disabled veterans the services offered by our national service officers.

One phase of this program which has been developed so successfully through the years by the national publicity department in conjunction with State and local DAV units is the monthly chapter news bulletin. It brings to you each month new stories, radio and television scripts, speeches, special supplements and a multitude of valuable suggestions that can help you get local publicity. We know

that those chapters that have an active publicity officer or committee use these materials and use them well.

For the record, the preparation of the monthly chapter bulletin takes the time of 2 persons for 1 week and correspondence reaches 4,000 letters a year. Hundreds of letters that we have received from chapters testify to the value of this much-needed service. Many of you in this room have written such letters. And, I might remind you, it's a free service of your national headquarters and is yours only for the asking.

While I'm on the subject, let me briefly touch on the highlights of your national publicity department's function—a job that is accomplished with a limited staff on a very limited budget.

During the past year we continued a program initiated the year before of sending publicity releases into every State at the time of distribution of Ident-O-Tags. Where we have an endorsement of a governor, his message is featured in the statewide news releases. This is followed by a statement by the department commander. Ident-O-Tag is also widely publicized in the annual license plate roundup story which gives the license plate picture for the coming year. Our lost key department gives us a wealth of Ident-O-Tag publicity and your national publicity department sends news feature items to localities when there is an unusual story connected with the loss of keys. Radio and TV disc jockeys receive Ident-O-Tag announcements each month and they are widely used.

At the entrance to this ballroom you will see a collection of editorial cartoons that have been drawn and published expressly for the DAV during this year. Several of these are syndicated cartoons which are used by hundreds of newspapers. And that is a fact. You can't kid yourself on that, they are out there. They have been printed in newspapers throughout this country. Only a few of us have that terrible disability of blindness, the rest of us ought to be able to see them because they are there. The evidence is out there.

These cartoons have been drawn as contributions to our DAV newspaper cartoon award which is now in its 11th year. Your national publicity department has arranged through this contest for more than 400 editorial cartoons in behalf of our cause and I need not tell you how valuable they are.

On the occasion of Memorial Day and Veterans Day your publicity department distributes a special feature to thousands of newspapers throughout the country and I know most of you are familiar with them, judging by the clippings you send into national headquarters yourselves. Last Memorial Day the message distributed was written especially for the DAV by Billy Graham. And that is not an easy thing to accomplish if Billy Graham doesn't want to do it. He doesn't lend his name. The reverend doesn't lend his name to such causes unless he thinks they are right.

I might tell you that next year we are trying to get Bishop Fulton Sheen and we will get him, and we will get a good message the same as in past years, and I know you have seen that. If you haven't seen it, then you just can't read.

Special packets are prepared for State conventions, forget-me-not campaigns, and promotions of the DAV. Each year a mother-of-the-year selection brings national publicity to the DAV. This year the space obtained especially in Seattle was most worthwhile. Your

publicity department works with national radio and television networks and national magazines.

This convention, for example, is being saluted by a number of national television shows such as Chevrolet's Crossroads program, Queen for a Day, Tic Tac Dough, and the Baseball Game of the Week. And it is not in here, at the time I didn't know it. Just last week I was on Don McNeil's Breakfast Club again. This morning I had three spots on local television. Those things are not too easy to arrange but they have been arranged. I know. I am the guy you sent on tour. I know how many television stations I was on and how many radio stations I taped, and what happened, and I haven't got that much imagination that I could write the stories every time. I had to use this publicity medium, these papers that were sent me. I can't remember all the facts. I have only been a disabled veteran since 1944. There are fellows in this organization that can give me cards and spades only because they have 30 years of service in the organization. But I know what is done. And I am the one making the report, so don't stop me in the hall and say to me, "Joe, our publicity department doesn't do anything," because I am tired of hearing it. I am giving you my report now. Bother me about something else. [Applause.]

Through direct releases, your national publicity department obtains local publicity when your chapter reaches its quota or surpasses its last year's membership. Hundreds of stories are sent out each month and they have been well received by the press.

Spot announcements carrying DAV messages are used as a public service by hundreds of radio and television stations every month. As far as our budget permits, slides are sent to television stations and the Ice Show which was widely acclaimed by television stations last year is now being seen by employees of industry and is being distributed on loan by libraries and service units. Radio transcriptions also are distributed as our budget permits.

That is what they do. Now let's come to something which I don't have last, but because after I finish this I am going to take a little bit more advantage of you and talk extemporaneously which I do better anyway. I never was a good reader. But I want to talk to you now about our service office. And some of the things which are often bandied around about a convention. I will read you some facts first and start out by telling you that I know what the national director of claims does. I know what Cicero is capable of. I know what Chet Cash can do. I know what all those national service officers can do. I have been a national officer for 5 years now. I know what we accomplish. Nobody needs to tell me at this stage of the game that I am not for anybody or anyone or any individual. You gave me a job, I have had to light a fire here and there across the way. There are service officers in this room who know what I have had to do. There are people who are aware of what I have had to do. And I don't mind telling you, contrary to what you sometimes think about the national adjutant, he likes a little burn once in a while and likes to be told you want something done, and he goes and does it.

What do you think you elected me for? Not to do those things? Of course, I get unpopular in some places, I get unpopular because I was serious enough to believe that you were serious enough when you elected me national commander that you wanted me to do a serious

job for the disabled veteran and I have tried to do it and I don't care whose feelings are hurt because if you kill me by Friday my insurance policy expires and I can't do anything about that anyway. So if you are going to shoot me, shoot me before Friday.

In my rather extensive travels during the past year, I have had the privilege and the opportunity to visit about 40 regional offices or areas where our national service officers are on duty. While always intensely interested in our rehabilitation and service program, this year I took advantage in every instance to visit these service officers at work and at the same time get better acquainted with them personally and individually.

No one knows better than I that our service program, spearheaded by our national service officers working in the regional, district, and central offices of the Veterans' Administration, is the main activity of the DAV to which we are all dedicated. This service has earned nothing but praise from those who have benefited by it. This service has the respect of all of the officials of the Veterans' Administration who are honestly concerned in the fair and equitable administration of the laws they are charged to administer. And if they weren't favorably impressed with us, if they didn't want to present their side of the story because they knew we were correct in our positions, why do you think we have 15 of the highest officials of the VA in here starting with the Veterans' Administrator and the Medical Director?

There isn't another organization, and that includes the American Legion, whether you believe it or not, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, or the AMVETS, that would get 15 of them at a convention. We are the ones they worry about, because we have the service officers all over the country and we hold the powers of attorney. And I don't care, I have said it at Legion conventions, and VFW conventions, and I will say it again. When somebody keeps telling me that a service officer isn't doing a good job, isn't handling a claim properly, and he keeps it up and keeps it up for a day when I am visiting in some States, I finally turn to him and I honestly say—and some of you got mad at that and I mean it—"If you feel that way about it, we are not doing a good job, give it to somebody else, give it to the Legion, VFW, or AMVETS." I invite them to do it. You know why I invite them to do it? Because 99 out of 100 times the Legion or the VFW or the AMVETS has already had the case, so they brought it to the experts and if the experts can't do anything with it, it isn't a good claim. [Applause.] Our national service officers deserve the complete and continuous support of the entire organization.

Within the past year or so it was being reported that the need for service officers, and for our rehabilitation service as a whole, was gradually lessening. Today I am sure you all agree that the situation in the Veterans' Administration, together with the powerful forces attempting to bring about reductions in benefits of the service-connected disabled, has increased the need to the claimant of the counseling and service only trained national service officers can render.

Director of Claims Hogan will relate in detail situations which have arisen and which have, in fact, advanced to a stage where the entire compensation structure is in real jeopardy. Only the trained and qualified forces made up of our national service officers, backed by an enthusiastic, forceful, and powerful membership, can defeat our known enemies.



I want to tell you a few things. Maybe you don't understand, because you make mistakes, you elect a guy to office and then you think because you have elected him that he is going to forget what you wanted him to do in the first place. I haven't forgotten. There are some, because my good friend Kenny Robey and I engaged in a colloquy on the floor yesterday, said, "What's Joe slipping? Is he getting on the side of the Veterans' Administration?" I can never forget the night in San Diego when I was giving a plaque to a Veterans' Administration official who roundly deserved it, and in my best manner I got up and praised the gentleman sincerely because I had been told of the job he had done, and a guy in the back of the room gets up and says, "What are you trying to do, get an increase in compensation?"

What am I going to say? In the first place I total 160 percent in disabilities and they have to cut 60 of it away before they could even start to reduce the 100 percent. I don't need to. One of the reasons I was able to attack Mr. Percival Brundage, Director of the Bureau of the Budget, very honestly because of what I knew he was doing, in San Jose when I read it, when he was trying to talk about house-bound disabled veterans, a word we had never heard before, a word I don't even like to hear used. When he talked of putting them from 225 to 240 he did it for one reason, he was trying to show us up, he was trying to point out if we said anything about it we would look like we were against the seriously disabled. It is an old trick, a child can anticipate such a trick. At the same time, he was cutting the 10, 20, and 30 percenters practically out of the picture. And they make up the majority of the disabled in this country and I have told you before and I will tell you again, I have 100 percent but the 10-percent guy feels his disability just as much as I do. It aggravates him as much and perhaps in later years his 10 percent will probably kill him a lot quicker than my 100 percent will.

And so because I was a seriously disabled veteran and because I counseled with my friend, Floyd Ming, and asked him what to do. "Nothing left to do. Give them hell." So I did. All I know, Senator Byrd ignored Mr. Brundage's letter and passed H. R. 52 and for once in Washington the Bureau of the Budget was told to pack salt by the Senate Finance Committee.

Now why this review of claims? When I started traveling around the country you came to me and told me many times, Cash had told me, others, but I didn't realize how bad it was until I traveled the field and you told me about what the review of claims was doing. I went back to Washington, I called Cicero in, as I do all the time, or I go to his office, either way, and sat down and he told me again and again what it was all about. And he said to me, "Joe, it has reached the hopeless stage. We have got to do something."

"I will do something."

I reached over and picked up the phone. He said, "What are you doing?"

I said, "I am calling Harvey Higley."

"You don't do that, Joe, it's not protocol for you to do that."

I said, "To hell with protocol. I want to talk to Higley." I called him, I arranged for a meeting and Cash and Hogan and I sat down with them and that didn't work. I went out in the field again and I returned. Again the same thing came up. So I know some people in

Washington, I am not ashamed to say that John Holden is a friend of mine, he is a former DAV service officer, he works for AMVETS. I called him. I have met Omar Ketchum of the VFW many times. I like Omar. I didn't know Kraabel so I had Hogan call. We got them in our place, we talked to them because we felt we needed friends on this thing and they sat down and talked about it. And I am going to tell you something else you didn't know. At the same time, or before that, we had a rating schedule team coming in and they came in and they are good men such as Bernie Southard and Monnahan, old and wise in these matters, and some young, aggressive people like young Jack Feighner and Aloisio and Tom McElwain from Philadelphia and they came in and because they were coming in I got an idea, my own, pure and simple. I called Ralph Stone again and I said, "Look, you have talked to Hogan and Cash and they have talked to you. What can we do?" So Stone, after some talking, agreed, so we had the seven field service officers sit down and have a go at the Veterans' Administration. And they had a darn good go for themselves all afternoon one day in Washington, and Monnahan, Southard, and Aloisio from the field and the rest of them had the opportunity to tell what was wrong with the review of claims. I don't think you even know that unless you ask Bernie or Monny.

So after that was finished, we got that over with, there was a subsequent meeting in the Veterans' Administration Office which Hogan has told you about because the others insisted on going over so they had a meeting between all the service organizations. All this started in the beginning with one phone call.

Finally, I went to Ohio, one of the last conventions I went to, and I have a lot of respect for certain of the people in Ohio. Al Daniels, others in Ohio, Paul Frederick included, saved this Department of ours a lot of money because they were smart enough, knew how to handle themselves enough and had the legal advice of Fred Bristol to go down to Ohio and sent me down there because I am Irish, and O'Neill, the Governor, is Irish, our mothers came from the same county, and we were smart enough to use that also and we got what we wanted. So when I went to the convention Governor O'Neill came there and gave one of the finest DAV speeches given by a Governor and don't forget, I am a Democrat, and I have a pretty good Governor in New Jersey by the name of Bob Meyner, I will take my hat off to Governor O'Neill of Ohio, even though he is a Republican.

So then, Ohio, our largest department seized the ball and they wrote a resolution and they believe in that resolution and I believe in what they believe. But I have got to be fair. These Veterans' Administration officials came here, they were coming to this convention, so what do you think I'd do with that resolution? I was in Ohio, I didn't doubletalk. I said to them very frankly, and they will repeat to you what I said, I said, "I would not enact some of the personalities in this resolution. It doesn't do any good. But on the things where you are talking about the review of claims if you are right about it bring it to the convention because we have tried dickering and negotiating with these people and we have got no place. So it is time for a resolution."

When I got here I didn't now suddenly change my mind about the review of claims, but you made me a national commander to do a job for you, you told me I have to do something. I know there is only one

way to do something and I don't believe the people who come to me and say, "Oh, don't even talk to them, it's a waste of time." I believe the more you talk to them the more you are going to get some place because if you have any sense you will know about horse trading. You are not going to stop the review of claims. You know that as well as I do. It is going to go to 1960 in spite of us. But what you are going to do is make them so conscious of what they are doing, so careful of what they are doing that they are going to search each and every claim very carefully and they are not going to step out of line one bit. So in effect you win your point because you and I know the one thing we cannot deny some of those claims were made in error. Because the service officers in every part of the country have told me so. They admit that there was error in some of the claims but not to the extent that the VA says and not to the extent that the men say that have been severed. That is your answer. You still are going to face the review but you are going to make that review slow up, slow down and they are going to be very slow to incur our anger again.

So I want to tell you that is why they were brought here, that is why they come every year, but that is why they were willing to sit down in the committees. And you can't lose on the exchange of information because it is going to get you somewhere.

I want you to know one thing. In your constitution it says we are to cooperate with Federal agencies. That doesn't mean we are supposed to do what they want us to do. But we are supposed to do what we do very well in the DAV, if you ever realize it some day, realize once and for all, that we may be the Veterans' Administration's severest critic but we are also their greatest friend because we know what we have in the Veterans' Administration. If you didn't have the Veterans' Administration, would you like to follow the Hoover Commission report and divide the Veterans' Administration up through about 6 or 7 agencies, so you wouldn't have a Veterans' Administration? Where we wouldn't have a central place to go to? The same thing would exist as it is in the Senate today, we have to introduce legislation in the House where we have a House Veterans' Affairs Committee because we haven't a Senate committee and you can't go to one committee chairman, you have to go to a dozen before you find out where the bill you want is going. That is why the veterans legislation doesn't get introduced in the Senate because they don't have a veterans' affairs committee.

As bad as the VA is, and that may be temporary because the people whose policies these are, are in office, those people that are as bad as they are in your opinion not in mine, you are better off with a central Veterans' Administration rather than us to go to a Percival Brundage in the Budget. You know how far we would get there. I am going to cut it out because I am only getting mad at myself.

But I want to tell you about the finance committee report. Just so nobody misunderstands me, a quick sentence. I place myself fairly and squarely behind the finance report that was made by the chairman of the budget and finance committee, Frank Buono, yesterday. I was a member of that finance committee and will take equally any censure the dues and finance committee wants to bestow upon me but they had better be sure they are right.

Now I am going to say something in closing and I haven't written this. I want to tell you something sincerely. I am a Corbly man.

I never made any secret of it. I fought the national adjutant in Milwaukee one time and I fought him because I was right. I thought a national convention belonged in Boston, not in Hawaii. It was the first time I met him. I met him on subsequent occasions. I never dreamed after I became NEC that a guy who had fought so much in the Milwaukee convention to bring a convention to another city when everybody knew, and he will admit today he wanted to go to Hawaii, I never thought I'd be elevated to a vice commander's chair, and subsequently each and every year somebody told me that Corbly didn't trust me and because Corbly didn't trust me I wouldn't go any further.

I went successfully each year through the help of a great many people that would listen to me and I became your national commander. Well, I don't know any better way, I don't care, I'd like to stop some of the rumors some of you presented though I know I can't, because you are going to say them, repeat them, and talk about them anyway, but I have known this man over a period of some years now and I want to tell you something. I haven't known the pleasure of a father since I was 6 years old when mine died, and Vivian Corbly has acted like a father to me ever since I have known him. And he has guided and counseled me and like a child, when I didn't think the old man was right, I told him so.

And let me tell you something else. Contrary to public opinion when I went out on DAV policy matters, legislative matters, he never told me that I should consult him. And if I did ask his advice sometimes when he didn't have a good answer, which is rarely, he would say to me, "You are the national commander. That's your problem. I have to worry about business." And I did so. And he has never told me how to conduct our affairs when I am in the field or in the things which are outside the scope of business. Of course, I seek him out on business matters. Who wouldn't? I am in Cincinnati only 30 days. What do you people think I do? Go into Cincinnati or Washington and throw my weight around? What do you want me to do in those places? I do my job which is that of the national commander. If something is wrong I tell the people I think it is wrong, if you can prove it to me.

You have a capable staff, excellent people. I have lived with Mel Corbly for a year, flown around the country with him. When he is with me he doesn't worry about what I say. He has confidence in me.

I have a legal friend, Fred Bristol. I have another in California. They don't worry about me. They give me legal advice when I seek it. These people had confidence in me but sometimes in wandering through these halls—you know they didn't elect me—you elected me. They had more confidence in me than you, the people that elected me. Everybody has to take the responsibility for electing me because I was elected unanimously.

I don't care how you figure my year, I think it has been a hard year and a trying year. I have tried to do everything you have asked me to do. I am glad it is finished because sometimes I can be bitter. I can be bitter at night in a hotel room when some guy, because I happen to be in his city, thinks he has a right to come to me and run somebody down who can't get to that city because he is a hundred miles away. You forget a lot of things in the DAV. You forget what I think is most important. Next to one other thing, which I will mention once more in closing, you forget it says in the book:

if I can't speak good of my comrade, I will not speak evil of him. [Applause.]

I don't care what you say about politics in this organization, you have a right to yours, I think I am a pretty good politician. When I move into where I think I should move in the interests of what I think is right, I politick and politick hard so I expect you to for the causes you espouse. But never will I resort to innuendoes, insinuations, or inferences to gain a political point. Never will I run down those people who run down me because I say to myself, "You may be a hundred percent disabled but they are impossibly disabled, because, poor fellows, their minds are affected.. They have forgotten to live in the Christian charity of understanding, loyalty, and devotion." And I am going to tell you what they ought to do and what they ought to preach and I don't care how the votes come out. I cast my one vote the way I want to and I will cast it on any issue that comes before the floor. I am not talking about running for national commander. I am talking about every issue in this convention that comes before you. Do what you think is right in your hearts but permit me to do what I think is right, too. Some people have come and said to me something I didn't like. They aren't intelligent about it. They say, "Joe, Corbly has your right ear at the platform all the time, and Hoffman has your left ear." That is true. That is what they are paid to do. And Sylvester doesn't get angry with you. Corbly does. But they are paid to do that. You have to have a parliamentarian. What do you think I know, Roberts Rules of Order backward and forward? I am just the man in the chair.

I will tell you one thing, Corbly has my right ear and Hoffman has my left, but my mind is my own and my heart is DAV and I defy anyone in this room to tell me differently. [Applause.]

So let's politick. Let's fight it out any place we have to. But don't do it in corridors, because I am tired of it. I had to get up at 6 o'clock this morning to do television, so I am cranky. And I have been cranky through this address and I admit it. But I will tell you one thing, I know what I am going to do when it is over. I hope you do. I have told you before and it is worth repeating. There is only one real important phrase in the DAV book that really counts because it expresses everything about this organization. And just keep it in mind like I have told you again, and I will tell you again, and I am going to do when I leave here and I hope we all do it together. We have 1 mission, 1 job. Our mission in the Disabled Veterans organization is not fulfilled until all our country's wartime disabled, their widows, and their dependents are adequately cared for. That is the big job.

(The covention gave the commander a standing ovation.)

Comrade KENNETH ROBBY (Department of Ohio). Mr. Commander, you cited several times the fact that we had a national commander who has served us 12 months as national commander, not for the glory of the name but for the idea that it was possible to do something for the disabled, and their widows and dependents. I personally have no doubt as to how Commander Burke feels and has felt this year in regard to our constant battle with the Veterans' Administration, so it is a great honor to me to move the acceptance of the national commander's report.

Comrade OSCAR G. BERGSTROM (Department of Minnesota). We have a large delegation here and we have come from the Eisenhower State, the Republican State of Minnesota. We shot a lot of Democrats up there in the last election. We didn't come down here to shoot any Democrat. At the same time I want to say this, that I hope and pray that the next commander who is elected to this convention that they don't continue to keep Minnesota as a forgotten State.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. Do you rise for the purpose of seconding the motion?

Comrade BERGSTROM. I do.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. You have heard the motion, which has been seconded. Any remarks?

All in favor, say "Aye."

Opposed, "No."

(The motion was put to a vote and carried.)

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. I feel certain by your expression following Commander Burke's address you know what I meant in my words of introduction. And I think I might just throw in a few words of my own, I am of a mind that Joe must be keeping steady company with a fire-eater because he certainly is letting off an awful lot of steam.

OFFICER OF THE DAY. Comrade Commander, may I present Mrs. Noyes, past president of the G.A.R., for the purpose of a presentation?

Mrs. NOYES. My national president of the Women's Relief Corps, auxiliary of the G.A.R., Mrs. Gertrude Edwards of South Dakota, wanted me to bring to you her greetings for a fine convention and present you with a little gift from her. You know we meet here. As you go out we come in next week.

National Commander BURKE. Thank you, Sweetie, awfully good to meet you.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. The Chair will now recognize the department commander of West Virginia also for the purpose of presentation.

Comrade PAUL D. SCHWESIG (Department of West Virginia). Commander Burke, I'd like to present you with a road atlas.

National Commander BURKE. I know what is coming.

Comrade SCHWESIG. Page 30, please. And a briefcase to carry your important papers in. It was made in the State of West Virginia, by the Union Carbide & Carbon Co. Thanks a lot for a job well done, Commander Burke.

National Commander BURKE. Thank you very much, Commander. This is a subtle way of telling me, and I deserve it, by telling me to turn to that page which I know already without opening it, is a map of West Virginia. That is one of the places I didn't get so they are giving me a map to show me how to get there.

Comrade WALDRON E. LEONARD (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 1). In the commander's address he mentioned about worrying the White House pertaining to H. R. 52. He made such a wonderful address and it was so inspiring I am just a little afraid that perhaps some of us didn't get the point of what the commander said. I have reasons to tell all of you that I think it would be very advisable, and I am told that it might be very helpful, and maybe someone else will want to say something more on this, I don't know what the adjutant

has in the way of suggestions or the commander might have in the way of suggestions, that bill has been on Mr. Eisenhower's desk for several days. If it is not passed by Tuesday, I was told less than 10 or 15 minutes ago, we will be out of luck.

Now, Mr. Commander, you made that suggestion and it was a good suggestion. I wondered at the time if it was a good suggestion. I will tell you now that it was a good suggestion and I don't know what procedure should be followed but I do know that it is most important that some plan some way be made and approached perhaps to the various departments and so forth, to get your telegrams into the White House in your own language. Perhaps you will want to talk further on that, Commander.

National Commander BURKE. I can add nothing more than the fact that I know that this is the stage of the game where you have got to do whatever you can. I do know, my American history tells me, the President of the United States can only do 1 of 3 things. He can sign it and make it law, which we hope he will do. He can veto it and it has to go back to the House and Senate. There isn't much time for them to do anything. Or he can leave it in his pocket. If within 10 days legislatively, that is by the legislative calendar, he hasn't acted on the bill and the Congress is still in session, it becomes law automatically without his signature. If, on the other hand, 10 days from the time it went to him, it stays in his pocket and Congress has adjourned, it is what is known as a pocket veto.

There just isn't anything you can do except send a telegram. It is hard to lobby. You can't get appointments with Presidents like you can with Senators because he doesn't have the time. I think what you ought to do, because it is something I am doing myself, is pray like hell.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. The Chair recognizes Convention Chairman Frank Williams, from Buffalo, for the purpose of an introduction.

Convention Chairman WILLIAMS. Mr. Commander, comrades, there are highlights in every year that we live. One of them is what I am about to do. First, let me extend the greetings to the 36th national convention of the DAV for my national commander of the Legion of Valor and wish you the very best of everything throughout your life. And I might say this, that the Legion of Valor is a 67-year-old organization from the Civil War on. I happen to have been the national commander in 1932,

There is no decoration, in my eyes, that is any higher, as I have said before, than that accolade that you are wearing in so many ways. However, our Government has seen fit to decorate comrades that in line of action were singled out for deeds beyond the call of duty.

I happen to hold one of those decorations. There are three. Your Congressional Medal, your Distinguished Service Cross and your Navy Cross. But on the platform we have one who is a member of our organization in Pittsburgh that joins with us in our reunions each year who holds the highest that this Government can give to any of our comrades, the Congressional Medal of Honor, and I want to have you know that Sterling Morelock epitomizes the greatest. He is from World War I.

Comrade CARL NOTTKE (Michigan, Chapter No. 7). He saved the life of a Michigan man who is a past department commander of Michigan, Charley Lawton. We of Michigan honor this comrade. [Applause.]

Convention Chairman WILLIAMS. Moving right along there are a few more introductions to be made. I have just been told that, of course, here we are trying to instill into the hearts and minds of our youth through baseball and other activities what this organization is doing to guide them and prevent them from getting into trouble.

There is no cleaner sport in the world than our baseball and our county commander has come up here now, after securing trophies to be given out. George Wildridge has worked hard on this convention committee, and George, now it is my privilege to introduce you for that task.

Comrade GEORGE WILDRIDGE. Comrade commander, national officers, and comrades of the Disabled American Veterans, I beg your indulgence for just a few moments and on behalf of Greater Buffalo Chapter No. 1, Department of New York, we wish to thank you for the privilege of this indulgence.

We, in the city of Buffalo, have an organization known as PAL. It gets its name from the fact that the first initials, P-A-L represent Police Athletic League.

It is my privilege as chapter commander of Greater Buffalo No. 1, to present at this time a certificate of citation to Lt. Neil O'Donnell of the Buffalo Police Department, director of the PAL in the city of Buffalo. [Applause.]

This comes as a complete surprise to Lieutenant O'Donnell. You must admit the youth of Buffalo must look up to the lieutenant. I was of the opinion that I was a pretty good-sized fellow myself, but when I get up against the lieutenant I am just a pigmy.

Lieutenant O'Donnell, Greater Buffalo Chapter No. 1 is very happy to present to you these three trophies to be given to the winners of the 16-year class, this trophy to be presented to the winner of the 14-year class, and this trophy to be presented to the winner of the 12-year class of the Police Athletic League baseball champions.

We, of the Greater Buffalo Chapter No. 1, are very proud and very happy to be a part of the Police Athletic League and in our small and humble way to instill in the youth of Buffalo the idea of fair play and good sportsmanship. Neil, it is a pleasure to make this presentation to you on behalf of Greater Buffalo Chapter No. 1 and through you, to the Police Athletic League. [Applause.]

Lieutenant O'DONNELL (Police Athletic League, Buffalo). Thank you very much. If I may just thank you, Commander.

Members of the DAV, of course I regard this as a distinct pleasure and a very high honor. I want to say that I am deeply proud, first of all to be the recipient of this certificate and also to accept on behalf of the Police Athletic League these three wonderful trophies. We in PAL not only regard these as emblematic of the best in PAL baseball but also the genuine interest of the DAV in the welfare of our youth. I think you are just as deeply concerned as we are regarding the conduct of our youngsters today. We in the PAL here in Buffalo are going to exercise every possible means that we can to direct the youngsters into constructive activities to see if we can make better citizens of tomorrow. We feel that one of the most effective weapons



is sports and recreation and we are particularly pleased to have the DAV share with us in sponsoring our baseball leagues this particular summer. Thank you very much.

May I on behalf also of the police department, and the PAL, welcome you to Buffalo and wish you a successful meeting and a pleasant stay. Thank you.

Comrade WILDRIDGE. It is also my pleasant duty at this time to present to one of our city fathers, a veteran in his own right, a member of my own Legion post, a past commander of his own post, and I believe somewhere in the State echelon of the Jewish War Veterans a councilman from the city of Buffalo who is in charge of veterans affairs in the city council. And on behalf of Greater Buffalo Chapter No. 1 it is my proud privilege to present to him this certificate of merit from the Disabled American Veterans, Greater Buffalo Chapter No. 1, in appreciation of meritorious service. This certificate is awarded to Councilman Meyer J. Abgott this 21st day of August 1957, signed George B. Wildridge, commander.

Before Mike makes his thank-you speech here we also had ex-Councilman Russell Leech found it necessary to go back to the City Hall and conduct his business, and Councilman Abgott is going to accept this same type of certificate in absentia for Councilman Russell Leech.

Council MEYER J. ABGOTT (city of Buffalo). Thank you, Commander Wildridge. National Commander, members of the DAV, I would like to bring the greetings at this time not only of the legislature of the city of Buffalo. I have just returned from the national convention of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States and, on behalf of the national commander, I wish you a most successful convention.

However, I want to refer to one of the most important things I think your national commander said a while ago. He brought out the fact he was a Democrat and someone else was a Republican. I happen to be of the opposite political faith, but I think it is most important that you, as veterans, don't forget the importance of electing other veterans because, believe me, it is the only way you are going to get support. I know. I have had that difficulty. The sooner you forget the fact that you are a member of a political party and remember that there are people running for office who are veterans and who are interested in veterans' activities, and get behind them and support them, the sooner you are going to be able to get the just deserts for the work that you have done over the years. Thank you again. [Applause.]

Convention Chairman WILLIAMS. I want to give another welcome to a comrade that is in the hall, I believe, Grand Chef de Gare of the Voiture of New York, Lloyd Milliman, who is a life member of the Greater Buffalo Chapter.

Comrade LLOYD MILLIMAN. Comrade DAV's, it is very nice to be here. From what I gather, you are having a wonderful convention and I hope you are having a good time here in Buffalo, N. Y.

I bring you greetings from the Grand Voiture of the State of New York. Hope to see you around, because I will be here, too. Thank you. [Applause.]

Convention Chairman WILLIAMS. I want to acknowledge for those who received baseball tickets and that are attending those games that the tickets were purchased, 150 of them, by the Nuway Markets for

the boys in the hospital and our delegates to enjoy the baseball game at the stadium.

I think that covers all that I want to do, Mr. Commander.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. Thank you, Comrade Williams.

At this time our national adjutant, Comrade Corbly, has a few remarks to deliver to you.

National Adjutant CORBLY. The programing of a convention is a rather difficult job. Tomorrow you have a busy day. We have a lot of work to come before us. We have got scheduled for this morning a program which will take you another hour and a half. There is not a bit of use in putting the program on unless our delegates are going to stay with us. The fair goes on all afternoon and night. Those who have to take a bus to get there should get the 3 o'clock bus. The rest of you who have cars can get there any time this afternoon. The parade is scheduled for around 6 o'clock.

Our committees are working very hard. And we hope to have reports available for your consideration starting tomorrow morning and if we can clear our decks of the material we have before us it will help us on the Thursday and Friday program.

Immediately following the next segment of our program which will last about 25 minutes, you will be presented with the DAV sweetheart of the year. I haven't seen her, but that is the reason that Dave Williams hasn't been with us most of the morning.

This next convention feature is in a sense a questionnaire. We are providing an informal visit to national headquarters and presenting it to you as a medium of communication, which, if liked, might be used in several endeavors by departments and by chapters through our national organization. It will be on a screen and it will be necessary for us to have the lights out, we will appreciate it very much if you give us full attention on this matter. We will then have the crowning of the Queen and thereafter the Air Corps has furnished us the first film of a new project the Air Force has with respect to disabled people and their employment. This will be the first public showing of the film and if you find that it is entertaining and might be of interest to your units and your departments, copies of the film will be available for you, as I understand it, on a loan basis.

All of the pictures taken in this matter were taken at national headquarters by Mel Corbly.

(Showing of DAV film.)

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. My comrades, a year ago in San Antonio you may recall a discussion was held on the proposal to have a national beauty contest or the equivalent.

At a meeting of the NEC held in that city it was approved. It was our hope at that time to hold a formalized contest here in Buffalo. It was impossible in view of mechanical difficulties to conduct a formal contest this year. Since that time, yesterday afternoon, arrangements have been made for next year to hold a formal contest under the sponsorship of the Association of Commanders and Adjutants. It does require a 48-State operation.

In July a contest was held in the city of Boston in which participants from many of the Eastern States contested for a Miss DAV title. Arrangements were made for her to be here in Buffalo. The judges of this contest were the department commanders of most of

the States on the eastern seaboard. All of the comrades that you know, Comrade Bearce of New Jersey, Comrade Stevens of Maine, and many others, and as a result of their deliberations, among some 44 contestants a winner was selected and the Minuteman Chapter No. 28, Concord, Mass. where the "shot was fired heard round the world," volunteered to pay the expenses of this girl to Buffalo so that she might enjoy this convention.

Yesterday at a meeting of the Commanders and Adjutants Association and a very enthusiastic gathering, the association voted unanimously to adopt this girl as our Miss DAV of 1957, and to present her here as such and ask our national commander, Joe Burke, to present her with the trophy and other insignia significant of that office. Incidentally, the first contest that was held in Massachusetts was under the direction and sponsorship of our present national commander, Joe Burke. This year, unfortunately, Joe had to be elsewhere during the convention on national business, and our national senior vice commander, Paul Frederick, took charge of the judging and arrangements and we are deeply grateful to Joe for starting us off last year and for holding the line this year. It has proven to be of tremendous publicity value to the DAV throughout the East and I think it will, with this national implication, through the whole country. We are asking Joe to make the presentation. Will the committee in charge of Miss DAV please bring her to the platform?

Comrade CAESAR DONNARUMA (department commander of Massachusetts). I would like to present to you the Massachusetts selection of Miss DAV for 1957-58, and Joe, I'd like to ask you if you will be kind enough to make this presentation.

National Commander BURKE. With this ring I thee—No, that's the wrong one. I would love to present this cup because Massachusetts has selected an outstanding example of feminine pulchritude to bring to this convention as Miss DAV. Somebody said to me just now, "Get the table out of the way and you can really see how good she looks."

It is my pleasure to present to you this national cup of the DAV.

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. Our national adjutant will now place the crown on her head.

(The Queen received the crown.)

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. Thank you all very much.

This little lady is Marilyn Lee Weddall, nickname "Penny." Lives at 118 Montclair Avenue, Roslindale, Mass. Her phone number is FA 3-6901. She was born in that city 18 years ago. Now I come to the interesting part. Five feet four, weighs 115 pounds, measures 38-23-35. She is blond, blue eyed, a student at Tufts University in Medford, Mass. Her talents lie in the vocalist field and her hobbies are water skiing and horseback riding. She intends to become a schoolteacher, and there is some possibility she might get married at a later date.

She has a brother who is in the Army serving at the present time in the State of Michigan. She is a member of Chapter 10 Auxiliary in the city of Boston. Her grandfather was killed in the service of the United States in the Spanish-American War.

My comrades, it has been a great pleasure and honor for me to make this presentation not only on behalf of the national organization, but

also my State. I hope as a result, this occasion may be repeated on a much larger scale in the future.

If any of you wish a picture taken with your department commander or the proper representative, to be returned to your local newspaper for publicity purposes, there are arrangements being made in the anteroom. Immediately after the close of this session just go up here in the anteroom and give your name and arrangements will be made for your department commander or representative to have your picture taken with the queen and you can return that picture to your local newspapers as a publicity gimmick. I will guarantee that 99 out of a hundred newspapers will use it and will give you more space than if you had almost any other type of event.

Incidentally, I come as a lawyer and judge, this was the best thing in the world for business. I haven't been able to handle it all since we had the last convention.

National Adjutant CORBLY: Are you all willing to stay with us for the next hour?

Because of some committee assignments I am going to take this time to read the announcements. Immediately thereafter John Burriss will have charge of the showing of the Air Force film, and then immediately following that we will have the attendance prizes which this morning include a very generous donation from the State of Wisconsin, through the Department of Wisconsin, of some great big pieces of cheese. The lucky boys this morning will get a hunk of good, old Wisconsin swiss cheese.

(Announcements).

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. May I have your attention?

As you know, at the fairgrounds this afternoon, shortly after 6:00 o'clock there will be a parade in which you are all invited to participate. Arrangements have been made for a color guard to carry the flags of the Disabled American Veterans in that parade. Also your queen will be driven in an open car over the course. Each State is cordially invited and urged if at all possible to bring their State flag with them and join in a massing of the colors as a show of strength. We certainly hope you can join in that massing of the colors. That will be around 6:00 o'clock at the fairgrounds in Hamburg. Thank you.

(Showing of Air Force film.)

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. Comrades, this film that you have just seen will be available for general distribution in about a month and you will be notified of its availability and the manner in which it may be obtained.

I doubt if there is any more business for this session.

(Prize drawing.)

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. Comrades, as there is no further business of the convention, following the prayer by the Reverend Chaplain Pickett, we will stand in recess until 9:30 tomorrow morning. Will you rise, please?

National Chaplain PICKETT. May the Lord bless thee, the Lord lift the light of His countenance upon us, the Lord make His face to shine upon us. The Lord be gracious unto us and give us peace. Amen.

(Whereupon at 2:00 p. m., the convention was recessed until 9:30 a. m., of the following day.)

## THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

August 22, 1957

The fourth business session of the 36th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans convened in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., at 10 a. m., Thursday, August 22, 1957, with First Junior Vice Commander Arvo T. Hietala presiding.

First Junior Vice Commander HIEOTALA. Will all the delegates please come into the hall? We are about to start.

The colors have been posted and we will have the invocation by our national chaplain at this time. Please stand.

National Chaplain PICKETT. We praise Thee, O Lord, for Thy mercy which is as fresh as the new born day; for Thy goodness and grace and favor which we see and feel in our lives, and again we would receive as Thou art willing to give, more ready to answer than we are to call. Fulfill the best in each of us today that we have ever thought or heard of Thee, making Thy word and Thy truth real in our hearts. Bless and comfort and cure Thy son who suffered an accident and lies in a hospital. Comfort his family as Thou alone can. Guide and direct all our proceedings in this day and the days that follow, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

First Junior Vice Commander HIEOTALA. I have some telegrams here, one addressed to Vivian D. Corbly, national adjutant, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Deeply and sincerely regret that I cannot be with all of you at your wonderful convention. You have my deepest gratitude for your understanding and kindness throughout the years. You deserve so much for your great accomplishments and the very great part you have played in our great country's history. Thank you one and all.

(Signed) EDITH NOURSE ROGERS.

Another one addressed to Joseph F. Burke:

To the Disabled American Veterans assembled in their national convention, I send greetings. The sacrifices you made for our country in time of war helped to secure the freedom of us all. Now in your daily work as citizens you continue to add skill and spirit to the strength of our Nation in its efforts to secure the peace of the world. Best wishes for a memorable convention.

(Signed) DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

This one to Joseph F. Burke:

May I extend to you and your great organization my best wishes for a happy and fruitful convention. Commitments made prior to my own election prevent my personal attendance. Accordingly I have designated Sidney Siller from New York to represent me and to extend my remarks to your convention. I offer your successor my complete cooperation in your great work for benefit of all veterans.

(Signed) BENJAMIN H. CHASIN,

*National Commander, Jewish War Veterans of U. S. A.*

Regret I cannot accept your kind invitation to visit your encampment. I assure you I will be pleased to have any resolution of your convention and will cooperate in any possible way to compel Veterans' Administration to follow congressional intent in its rating procedures and in connection with all matters involving veterans' benefits.

(Signed) CARL ALBERT,  
*3d District, Oklahoma.*

Deeply regret legislative duties prevent my attending your convention. As a veteran of World War I and as a Member of Congress am truly interested in all proceedings. Will do all possible to correct any injustice that may occur by reason of current rating procedures in the VA.

(Signed) TOBY MORRIS,  
*Member of Congress.*

Deeply regret that full schedule in the House of Representatives make it impossible to accept your kind invitation to attend convention. Assure you of my keen interest in convention proceedings and all recommendations and resolutions adopted by your delegates. And will be glad on the DAV's request to seek a congressional investigation of current rating procedures in the Veterans' Administration.

(Signed) ED EDMONDSON,  
*Member of Congress.*

VFW National Encampment will prevent me from attending DAV National Convention in Buffalo, N. Y. Best wishes to my fellow DAV members from Indiana and for a successful convention.

(Signed) RICHARD L. ROUDEBUSH,  
*National Senior Vice Commander in Chief,  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.*

Greetings to the delegates at this 36th national convention. Many thanks to you and John Burris on the downgrading of disabled veterans. May the deliberations this day be in the interest of all disabled veterans throughout America. May God bless you all.

(Signed) GERALD A. GARRETT,  
*Past Department Commander of Florida.*

And the following is a letter to Commander Burke from the president of the Japanese Disabled Veterans Association, Gen. Atsushi Kaba, dated August 18, 1957.

DEAR SIRs: We have the honor to send you our message with hearty congratulations to the 1957 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans.

On this auspicious occasion, we express our thanks for your warm friendships shown for us before and after the permission of our association to be a member of the World Veterans Federation. Both you and us are suffering from war injuries of which we are rather proud, believing to have dedicated ourselves willingly to the respective nation.

But in Japan, we have been neglected socially and legally since our surrender, losing almost all the protective facilities and being regarded with indifferent national feelings. And, moreover, Japan as a member of the democratic side, is always threatened by the Communist side as the results of the fact that the world today is pitifully divided into two camps.

Overcoming these difficult conditions and our own physical handicaps, we have restored some legal privileges by encouraging ourselves to do our best harder and longer than any other peoples do to appeal to our Government and people to understand our honorable merits and pride.

Stability of a private life is the first requirement for the true peace. We have endeavored to achieve this aim and will try our best forever, believing your good understanding and help as well as the WVF's encouragements. We decided to fight against those difficulties mentioned above in conformity with the WVF principles and the doctrines demonstrated by our Premier Kishi at your Congress in Washington shortly before.

We earnestly hope that both of us, situating on both sides of the Pacific Ocean, could contribute successfully to the pacific and eternal relationships among us by shaking hands each other forever.

Thank you.

(Signed) A. KABA, *President J. D. V. A.*

At this time I want to call on Robert Gonzalez as chairman of the employment and civil service committee who is ready to give his report.

Comrade ROBERT GONZALEZ (chairman, employment and civil service committee). Thank you, Commander.

Comrades, the convention committee on employment and civil service preference received and considered 72 resolutions. The committee recommends the following action on these resolutions: Rejection of five resolutions because the subject matter was already accepted policy of the organization, not within the purview of the organization, or not in the best interests of disabled veterans.

Adoption of 24 resolutions. Now I am going to read the resolution number, give you the subject matter, the meat of the resolution. There will be a slight pause, in case anyone wishes to discuss this resolution. If not we will go on to the next.

#### RESOLUTION 18

Whereas powerful forces throughout the United States have been consistently making every effort to weaken, if not completely destroy veterans' preference in Federal, State, and local employment; and

Whereas while efforts have thus far been unsuccessful as far as the Federal Government is concerned, yet there has been a weakening of some State laws in recent years in that respect: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans*, That we vigorously oppose any changes in the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, excepting those which would strengthen such act.

#### RESOLUTION 32

Whereas post office departments recruit additional help during peak seasons; and

Whereas the Bureau of Employment Security has authorized that various State employment services extend preference in referral to disabled veterans and nondisabled veterans in accordance with the law: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That all recruiting for additional help in peak seasons for the Post Office Department be conducted through the various State employment services in order to safeguard the rights of veterans' preference for disabled veterans, after the eligible registers have been exhausted and before outside recruitment will be permitted.

#### RESOLUTION No. 77

Whereas the responsibility for maintaining an effective job-counseling and employment-placement service for veterans, and special employment assistance to disabled veterans, is centered in the Veterans Employment Service, and

Whereas the Veterans Employment Service is a specialized unit of the United States Employment Service in the Department of Labor, and is dependent upon Congress for the continuation of its program of providing the maximum of employment opportunity for veterans in the field of gainful employment: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans*, That we go on record as favoring the passage of adequate appropriations to the Veterans Employment Service in order that it may carry out its responsibility in providing adequate employment assistance to veterans.

#### RESOLUTION No. 90

Whereas section 283 of title 18 of the United States Code concerning officers and employees interested in claims against the Government has recently been interpreted by the United States Department of Justice as preventing fellow employees from assisting other employees or former employees in claims against the Government, and

Whereas this recent interpretation has the effect of handicapping veterans in obtaining voluntary statements and appearances of coworkers in appeals against adverse action under section 14 of the Veterans' Preference Act as amended, inasmuch as such voluntary action or help on the part of the coworker is considered to be in violation of the statute: therefore be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in 1957 Convention Assembled,* That section 283 of title 18 of the United States Code be amended to add on an additional paragraph as follows:

"Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent any employee or former employee from voluntarily assisting another employee or former employee in preparing or assisting in the prosecution of a claim against the United States."

#### RESOLUTION No. 128

Whereas Public Law 346, 78th Congress, largely authored and wholeheartedly supported by the major veterans' organizations of America, provided for an effective employment counseling and job placement service for veterans of all wars to the end that they shall have the "maximum of job opportunity in the field of gainful employment," and

Whereas this service, in recent years, has materially enhanced the economic welfare of veterans and has contributed substantially to their favorable position in the labor force, and

Whereas there is a continuing need for this service to assist veterans in making proper job readjustment when they become unemployed or find it necessary to change jobs, as is evidenced by the thousands of such veterans who utilize the facilities of the service throughout the country each month: Therefore be it

*Resolved,* That the Disabled American Veterans, in annual convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19 to 23, 1957, go on record as urging the National Congress to appropriate adequate funds, annually, for the effective administration of the Employment Security Program including the Veterans Employment Service and the public employment service system.

#### RESOLUTION No. 185

Whereas it has been proven on many occasions that the fine and constructive services performed by the Veterans' Counseling Service staff of the United States Civil Service Commission have been indispensable in the placing of disabled veterans in Federal employment, and

Whereas it is a physical impossibility for the DAV to maintain a Federal placement service, not only in Washington, D. C., but throughout the entire United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans,* That we highly commend the services that have been, and are being rendered by the Veterans' Counseling Service staff of the United States Civil Service Commission, and we urge the expansion and strengthening of that staff to assure necessary services, including aptitude tests, and that we vigorously oppose any attempt to weaken or eliminate such service.

#### RESOLUTION No. 188

Whereas Congress, in its wisdom, enacted Public Law 208, which inaugurated the national apprenticeship program, designed to build an adequately skilled labor force and to correlate apprenticeship activities on a National, State, and local basis, and

Whereas Congress also provided that veterans entering apprenticeship training can participate in the training benefits of the GI bill and Public Laws 16 and 894, as amended, may obtain while in training the added protection and advantages provided by such National and State apprenticeship laws and be assured of being brought to the point of full productivity in the apprenticeship trade of their choice: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans,* That we do unanimously endorse the national apprenticeship program of the Bureau of Apprenticeship, United States Department of Labor, as the best-known method of developing skilled workers and urgently suggest that the field staff of said Bureau be sufficiently large to guarantee fully the quality and quantity of training needed to meet the demands of any national emergency.



## RESOLUTION No. 189

Whereas there are many employable service-connected disabled veterans who are now having, or who will have in the future, difficulty in obtaining and retaining suitable, useful, and gainful employment, and

Whereas a service-disabled veteran is, in effect, discriminated against in obtaining such employment because of the fear in the minds of many employers that he might, however infrequently, incur increased costs as a result of consequent increased disability of such service-disabled veterans under the present provisions of operations of the various State workmen's compensation acts, and

Whereas, unemployed service-connected disabled veterans frequently become a burden to themselves, their dependents, their respective communities, and to the taxpayers of this country when they could become valuable assets by being suitably employed, and

Whereas it is highly important to assure to all service-disabled veterans equal opportunities for suitable employment: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans*, That we recommend that all State departments review their workmen's compensation laws now in existence with the view of amending such laws in order to protect employers against any possibility of increased costs through the employment of disabled veterans.

## RESOLUTION No. 190

Whereas there are thousands of disabled veterans presently employed by the Federal Government, and

Whereas the life expectancy of such disabled veterans is considerably less than that of the nondisabled, and

Whereas the early retirement of employees will provide further job opportunities for disabled veterans; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans*, That we go on record as in support of legislation that would amend the Civil Service Retirement Act to provide optional retirement at full annuity for all civil service employees at age 55 with 30 years or more of service.

## RESOLUTION No. 193

Whereas two basic principles have long been established in the United States; namely, the merit system and veterans' preference in Federal employment, and

Whereas, one agency has been charged with the enforcement of both the merit system and the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 as amended; namely, the United States Civil Service Commission, and

Whereas said Commission cannot function and do the job intended for it unless sufficient funds are available to properly operate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans*, That we go on record as favoring the continuation of the use of every means at our command to see that adequate appropriations are supplied by the Federal Government to the end that the United States Civil Service Commission may function as was intended by present law, rules, and regulations.

## RESOLUTION No. 196

Whereas the average age for World War 1 veterans is approximately 62, and

Whereas these and other unemployed veterans over 45 years of age are experiencing extreme difficulty in finding jobs for which they are useful, and

Whereas this situation is brought about by the hiring attitude and policy of many employers who wrongly indicate that age does not permit adaptability in employment and allegedly slows up the production lines; and

Whereas it is common knowledge that our mature veterans, through their prior experience in industry, bring to a new job practical knowledge that only age itself can accumulate, and

Whereas this unemployment condition is a serious threat to two of our most available resources, the human being as well as our national economy, and

Whereas public or private employment should afford employment opportunities to all who are qualified and desire employment if there are suitable jobs available without imposition of an arbitrary maximum age limit: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans, at their 36th annual convention, at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957*, That a national intensified educational

program be enacted with sufficient funds to be appropriated by the Congress of the United States to enable the United States Department of Labor to carry out the purposes of this program.

**RESOLUTION No. 240**

Whereas, gainful employment of the physically handicapped is a major objective of this organization, and

Whereas many handicapped persons are unable to seek full-time employment because of their disabilities, and

Whereas many handicapped persons seek part-time employment which they can adequately perform: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That part-time employment be promoted within the Federal Government employment systems and all industries.

**RESOLUTION No. 256**

Whereas disabled veterans employed by the Federal Government do not enjoy any added retention credits over nondisabled veterans in case of reductions in force: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the delegates to the 1957 Convention of the Disabled American Veterans*, That we go on record as favoring the making of further attempts to enact legislation that would give a sliding scale of additional retention credits to all compensably disabled veterans in reductions in force, based upon the degree of disability.

**RESOLUTION No. 257**

Whereas section 202 of Executive Order 10577 provides that compensably disabled veterans may acquire competitive status and career tenure upon recommendation by the employing Federal agency after the 1 year satisfactory probationary period, and

Whereas such recommendations must be made by the agency prior to January 1, 1958, which means in effect that any compensably disabled veteran appointed after January 1, 1957, cannot acquire career status immediately after such 1-year probationary period since it will be impossible for him to have finished such period before December 31, 1957, and

Whereas H. R. 6552 now pending in the 85th Congress would amend the Veterans Preference Act of 1944 to make such provision mandatory without delimiting date and applicable to all those compensably service-connected disabled veterans who may in the future enter Federal employment: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Delegates to the 1957 Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans*, That we go on record as favoring the speedy enactment of H. R. 6552 and, in the interim, to put forth every effort to secure an extension to section 202 of Executive Order 10577.

**RESOLUTION No. 258**

Whereas it has long been the established policy of the Federal Government to promote the employment of the physically handicapped, and

Whereas defense spending has greatly increased the need of the Federal Government to enter into a very large number of contracts with private agencies: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Delegates to the 1957 Convention of the Disabled American Veterans*, That we go on record as favoring the immediate introduction of appropriate legislation to provide that all Federal agencies give special consideration to those private agencies which employ the handicapped in awarding contracts.

**RESOLUTION No. 259**

Whereas the Universal Military Training and Service Act of 1951 is designed to assist returning servicemen and women in guaranteeing their reemployment rights, and

Whereas the Bureau of Veterans' Reemployment Rights, United States Department of Labor, has been designated in the act as the agency to assist veterans in the full procurement of their reemployment rights: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Delegates to the 1957 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans*, That we go on record as favoring the employment of every

means at our command to see to it that the Bureau of Veterans' Reemployment Rights receive such funds as may be necessary to adequately assist ex-servicemen and women in obtaining their reemployment rights.

RESOLUTION No. 262

Whereas under existing law, rules, and regulations, when a vacancy occurs in the office of postmaster, an acting postmaster may be appointed, who is not required to have eligibility through examination, such appointment may be extended after 6 months by the Post Office Department, with the consent of the Civil Service Commission, and

Whereas such acting postmaster, so appointed, is required to qualify in an open competitive examination in order to become eligible for a regular appointment, unless he has a status for promotion, and

Whereas there have been numerous instances where, because after conducting an open, competitive examination for the position the three highest on the eligible register are all unsatisfactory to the county committee of the majority political party, the acting postmaster is retained in the job indefinitely; and

Whereas this creates a situation that is neither in accord with the merit system nor the provisions of the Veterans Preference Act of 1944 as amended: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, go on record as favoring the enactment of suitable legislation that will limit the tenure of an active postmaster to a period not to exceed 1 year, with a barrier to reappointment, during which time it will be mandatory for the Civil Service Commission to conduct an open competitive examination or examinations to secure a list of eligible for permanent appointment to the position; and be it further

*Resolved*, That only may the tenure of such acting postmaster be extended beyond the year where it has been impossible to secure a list of eligibles for the appointment which shall contain the statutory number of at least three or more names. In such an event the Civil Service Commission shall continue to hold examinations periodically until such an eligible register is established, after which it shall be mandatory for the Post Office Department to make a permanent appointment within 60 days.

RESOLUTION No. 276

Whereas employers throughout the United States have been responding in a more favorable manner by placing increasing numbers of disabled veterans in suitable employment since the enactment of Federal legislation providing for the observance of 1 week each year known as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week, and

Whereas the continued success of this program has rested, to a very large degree, on the activities of the President's Committee of the Physically Handicapped: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That we heartily endorse and commend the activities incident to the observance of NEPH Week by the State employment services and particularly the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped as well as the governors' and mayors' committees, for their untiring efforts to outline and promote such activities.

RESOLUTION No. 279

Whereas wartime benefits were terminated by Presidential proclamation after January 31, 1955, and

Whereas by this action those ex-servicemen and women who entered the Armed Forces after that date and who subsequently incurred service-connected disabilities in line of duty are not entitled to preferential treatment in employment by the United States State Employment and the Veterans' Employment Service; and

Whereas these disabled ex-servicemen and women are entitled to membership in the Disabled American Veterans: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That we do hereby recommend that necessary legislation be presented to the 2nd session of the 85th Congress to provide the preferential treatment to those ex-servicemen and women who entered the Armed Forces after January 31, 1955, and who incurred service-connected disabilities after that date, so long as the Selective Service Act is in full force and effect.

## RESOLUTION No. 318

Whereas it is reported that the Veterans' Administration alleges that they are unable to obtain medical members or other employees of the Veterans' Administration Medical Service to report to hospitals in remote areas and man the same; and

Whereas it is well known that there are many veterans throughout the United States that are unable to obtain hospital and medical treatment because of these hospitals not being properly staffed; and

Whereas the present methods of operating these hospitals necessitate veterans having to travel long distances and being away from their families and friends for long periods of time in order to obtain hospital treatment; and

Whereas it is felt that if Veterans' Administration hospital employees were placed under civil service and insured of tenure employment under civil service laws and regulations that they would be willing to work in any hospital operated by the Veterans' Administration irrespective of location; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957,* That we go on record urging our National Congress, and the Director of the Veterans' Administration Hospitals under United States Civil Service laws and regulations, to grant them security formerly granted medical members of the Veterans' Administration and other civil service employees.

## RESOLUTION No. 343

Whereas veterans with service-connected disabilities are, by reason of their handicapping disabilities, somewhat limited in their selections of suitable jobs and therefore have greater difficulty in procuring suitable jobs than do able-bodied persons, inasmuch as they must procure such suitable jobs on a selective placement or man-job-matching basis, whereby their remaining abilities are utilized; and

Whereas notwithstanding the fact that the premium rates on workmen's compensation policies are not determined on the basis of physical condition or age of employees, but rather on the basis of the experience in the general industry and subsequently by each particular employer, too many employers are nevertheless fearful that they run the risk of increasing their workmen's compensation premium costs by their employment of service-connected compensable disabled veterans, whose handicapping disabilities are much more likely to be ascertained by the average employer than might be the case as to any other person with a similar handicap, and

Whereas there have, unfortunately, been incidents where handicapped persons who have become injured on the jobs have thereby become more seriously disabled and therefore entitled to more workmen's compensation benefits over a longer period of time than might otherwise have been the case as to an able-bodied employee, which consequently tends to increase the fear in the minds of too many employers that they do run a risk of increasing their workmen's compensation premium costs by their employment of handicapped veterans, and

Whereas compensable disabled veterans who become further handicapped by injuries on the job might thereafter become greater burdens for the United States Veterans' Administration, or at least greater burdens for society, and

Whereas no employer should be expected to assume the risk of increasing his workmen's compensation premium rates by his employment of a service-connected disabled veteran in a suitable job, and

Whereas careful analyses of United States Veterans' Administration statistics reveals that a higher percentage of unemployed service disabled veterans go to the trouble of proving themselves legally entitled to higher amounts of disability compensation than has been the case as to those suitably employed; and

Whereas all compensable service-connected disabled veterans have certainly earned the right to live in the American way, by an equalized opportunity for obtaining and retaining suitable employment; and

Whereas the experience in Canada, since 1920, has demonstrated that its policy of making reimbursement to the Provincial governments, private insurance companies, and self insurers, of all workmen's compensation costs involved in the injury on the job of any service-connected disabled veteran has involved relatively low overall costs, and has greatly facilitated their selective placement in suitable jobs, resulting in less requests for disability compensation increases, and therefore in less overall costs to the Federal Government: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in Annual National Convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That we do hereby urge the President and the Congress of the United States to enact H. R. 7936 into law, in effect to provide that the United States Veterans' Administration shall periodically make reimbursement of all workmen's compensation costs paid out by any State, self-insurer, or private insurance company, by reason of the injury on the job of any compensable service-connected disabled veteran, under the operation of any State workmen's compensation law.*

**RESOLUTION No. 481**

Whereas H. R. 6686, now pending in the Congress, would strengthen the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 as amended by amending the second proviso of section 8 of Public Law 378, 78th Congress, by striking out the words, "and shall be made available upon request" and inserting in lieu thereof "and a copy of which shall be transmitted to the veteran eligibles who have been passed over" and by further striking the words "upon request therefor": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the 1957 Disabled American Veterans National Convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That we go on record as heartily favoring the passage of H. R. 6686 in the next session of the Congress.*

**RESOLUTION No. 482**

Whereas the Federal Employees Compensation Act, as amended, presently provides that compensation payable in case of injury or death shall be based upon the prevailing wage at the inception of such disability; and

Whereas there are many instances where such disability recurs at some future time, many years later; and

Whereas under the existing law such compensation is computed on the basis of the prevailing wage at the time of the inception of the injury or illness; and

Whereas enactment of H. R. 472 now pending in the 85th Congress would correct this inequity by amending the Federal Employees' Compensation Act to establish an additional wage basis for computing compensation in cases of recurrence of disability and in cases of death occurring subsequent to such recurrence: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the 36th Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, convening in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That we go on record as favoring the enactment of H. R. 472 in the 2d session of the 85th Congress.*

**RESOLUTION No. 363**

Whereas many inquiries have been received as to DAV relationship to the activities of the self-proclaimed National Association of Veterans Employment Councils (NAVEC); and

Whereas the chairman of a Governor's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped has asserted that "this operation is bad for the cause of employing the handicapped"; and

Whereas according to its constitution and bylaws, the alleged purpose of NAVEC is "to cooperate with, and to assist governmental and private groups now engaged in the promotion of the employment of the handicapped veteran; to operate throughout the United States volunteer veteran employment councils designed to aid, free of charge, the handicapped veteran secure useful and productive employment; to educate the American public generally, and the American employer specifically, as to the value of the handicapped veteran employee; to advance the interest of, and work for the betterment of, all veterans who, by reason of any cause whatsoever, were, are, or have become handicapped; and to promote and arrange for and, in all other ways, obtain suitable employment in all of its phases and ramifications for such handicapped veterans"; and

Whereas the Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies made up or State employment agencies charged with the responsibility for operating special placement services for handicapped veterans, has, through its Veterans' Affairs Committee, attempted to evaluate the NAVEC program, and

Whereas the June 1956 Report of its Veterans' Affairs Committee states that—

- (1) NAVEC's reply to their inquiry shows that NAVEC has no endorsements from the organizations listed. (Organizations listed in the inquiry were: American Legion, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, National Association of Manufacturers, American Federation of Labor, President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped, and Veterans Employment Service);

(2) News releases mention large sums of money collected but negligible (NAVEC) activity in the field of service to veterans;

(3) The organization distributed great numbers of ballpoint pens and Lord's Prayer medals with an appeal for contributions in which they capitalize upon public sympathy for handicapped veterans, and

(4) Some prominent people whose names were used in connection with NAVEC publicity have, for cogent reasons, asked that their names not be used, and

Whereas the congressionally chartered veterans organizations all deny that they have any nationally elected or appointed representatives on any NAVEC council, and

Whereas the name, National Association of Veterans Employment Councils, in its District of Columbia charter, gives the impression, falsely, that there is an actual national association of veterans employment councils consisting of official representatives of these national veterans organizations, and

Whereas it is probable that most of those Americans who have made donations to NAVEC have falsely assumed that such donations have enabled substantial numbers of handicapped veterans to secure jobs, and

Whereas the Bureau of Employment Security of the United States Department of Labor, in a letter to all State employment security agencies and all State veterans' employment representatives, dated January 2, 1957, informed these agencies and representatives that—

(1) The Bureau has not had any contact with the National Association of Veterans Employment Councils (NAVEC) other than a request from its public information officer to meet with us to obtain our views of its program and to explore areas of cooperation,

(2) Although the Bureau indicated how a meeting could be arranged, NAVEC did not follow up,

(3) At the request of the Veterans Employment Service, the staff of the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped made a careful review and an analysis of NAVEC's stated programs, based upon workshop sessions of the first annual workshop and meeting of the organization held in February 1956.

(4) There seems to be a substantial duplication between the objectives of NAVEC and the functions and area of service of the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped,

(5) In view of our relations and the extent of our cooperation with the President's Committee, the necessity of working with another group in this area seems questionable unless its functions are integrated with those of Governor's Committees on Employment of the Physically Handicapped,

(6) It is our understanding that NAVEC plans to engage in the actual placement of handicapped veterans,

(7) The Bureau has placed a continuing emphasis on the necessity that specially qualified workers deal with the employment problems of the physically handicapped, including disabled veterans,

(8) A handicapped person who is improperly placed may be a hazard to himself and to his fellow workers,

(9) Further, a bad placement can undo years of effort in obtaining the cooperation of an employer in utilizing the skills of physically handicapped workers, and

(10) We have no information concerning the plans of NAVEC for hiring and training personnel capable of performing the specialized services that are required in a placement program.

Whereas NAVEC is not a member of the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped nor has it been recommended for membership by any 1 of its more than 350 members, although it has been the demonstrated desire of the President's Committee to cooperate with all groups, public and private, toward the objective of facilitating the employment of the physically handicapped, and

Whereas the Chairman of the President's Committee, Maj. Gen. Melvin J. Maas, has publicly stated: "We have been extremely successful with volunteer methods \* \* \* there is no need, in our opinion, to raise funds for the purpose of finding jobs for veterans. \* \* \* We need more volunteers and more employers to open their doors to the handicapped. \* \* \* This does not involve the necessity for large sums of money to be raised in the name of jobs for veterans," and

Whereas on February 20, 1957, the director of the employment security agency in Georgia wrote to the executive director of NAVEC in Washington, D. C., and

stated that, "Thus far, I have heard quite a bit about NAVEC's fund-raising activities but very little about placement services rendered to handicapped veterans by NAVEC," and indicated that "all available information that will be of assistance to me in making a truly objective evaluation of services rendered the handicapped veteran by NAVEC will be appreciated," and that as of May 7, 1957, the executive director of NAVEC had not furnished such information, and

Whereas it is believed that NAVEC mass mailings of unordered merchandise accompanied by appeals for donations are, have been, and will in the future be, harmful to the DAV as well as to other congressionally chartered veterans' organizations and their service activities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the 36th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, assembled in the city of Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That we make clear to all concerned that the DAV has no affiliation whatsoever with NAVEC, does not endorse NAVEC, is not cooperating with NAVEC, and has reason to question the value of NAVEC's actual efforts and abilities to accomplish its proclaimed purposes "to advance the interest of, and work for the betterment of all veterans, and to promote and arrange for and, in all ways, obtain suitable employment in all of its phases and ramifications for such handicapped veterans."*

Comrade GONZALES (continuing). Mr. Commander, I move the adoption of the report of the employment and civil service committee.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Do I hear a second?

Comrade MARVIN SILVER (Philadelphia, Pa., Chapter No. 96). Second the motion.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. The motion has been made and seconded to accept the report of the employment and civil service committee. Is there any discussion?

Ready for the question? All those in favor, signify by the usual sign.

Opposed?

So ordered.

(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

Comrade GONZALES. Mr. Commander, comrades, this won't take but just a minute. As you know you have already heard in some of the other reports, the situation that we had existing throughout naval establishments in the earlier part of this year was a very serious situation as far as disabled veterans were concerned.

My chapter, Chapter 23, of Florida, was the original chapter to take this up with your national officers. And I would like to say that we received the most wholehearted cooperation and support from our commander, Joe Burke, and our national director of employment, John Burris. And I would like to move at this time that this group give a rising vote of thanks to those two comrades for the fine work that they did on this situation.

(The convention rose to applaud.)

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Thank you, Comrade Gonzales. At this time I want to call on the national commander to introduce a guest.

National Commander BURKE. Good morning. The Chair would like to bring before this microphone for extending greetings of the Jewish War Veterans' national commander, who couldn't be here, Sidney Siller. He is a former department commander of the Disabled American Veterans of the State of New York.

Comrade SIDNEY SILLER (Jewish War Veterans). Mr. Commander, national officers, comrades; as a member of the Disabled American Veterans it is my privilege to extend to you the greetings of my personal friend from the State of New York who last Sunday was elected

to the office of national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, Commander Ben Chasin, from Brooklyn, N. Y. Ben called me on the phone and asked me to express to this convention assembled, his personal greetings and best wishes for the good health and welfare of the Disabled American Veterans for this coming year and for the future years to come. He indicated to me that he would do all in his power to continue the cooperation and harmony that existed between both of our great national organizations and in addition he promised that he would do all in his power to recommend to his large membership, that if they are eligible for membership in the DAV and if they are not eligible personally to recruit those who are for our own organization.

On behalf of Ben Chasin, the national commander of the Jewish War Veterans I thank all of you and wish you all the best and good luck.

First Junior Vice Commander HJETALA. Thank you Comrade Siller, for those greetings.

At this time I would like to call on the chairman of the constitution and bylaws committee for the first reading. This will be distributed and tomorrow we will have the second reading and perhaps the final reading of that committee's report.

At this time, Comrade Leo DeLapp.

Comrade LEO DELAPP (chairman, constitution and bylaws committee). This is the first reading, no discussion. Tomorrow the second reading, then we battle it out.

The constitution and bylaws committee met and considered all the resolutions presented to it with one which came from the finance committee. This one was accepted and recommended for adoption on the floor and we will have the second reading tomorrow.

#### RESOLUTION No. 415

Create staggered 2-year terms for national executive committeemen.

Article XI, section 6, paragraph 1 (p. 32), is amended to read as follows:

"Paragraph 1. Commencing with the 1958 national convention, and thereafter during each even numbered year, the delegates from each even numbered national district, and thereafter during each even numbered year, shall elect a national executive committeeman and an alternate, whose term of office shall be for 2 years. At such convention, the delegates from each odd numbered district shall elect a committeeman and an alternate, whose term of office shall be for 1 year and, thereafter, during each odd numbered year, such delegates shall elect a committeeman and an alternate whose term of office shall be for 2 years. The National Blind Veterans Chapter shall elect a committeeman and an alternate at each convention, whose term of office shall be for 1 year."

Article IX, section 1 (p. 17), is amended by adding to the end thereof: "except as otherwise provided by article XI, section 6, paragraph 1, of these bylaws."

It is necessary to make this other change to conform with the change in paragraph 1 of section 6.

This is the only one that the committee adopted for recommendation for your approval on the floor or disapproval and there is one which will have a minority report, I'll get its number in a second here.

No. 438, which is a resolution handed to us from the finance and dues committee to increase the national per capita tax \$1, was rejected in our committee and the finance and dues committee notified my secretary that they will make a minority report on it tomorrow. I have to notify you so that you will have time to think about it and find out about it.



That also provides, they recommend anyway that that will provide an increased income on the annual salary of the national service officers by at least \$200 a year.

Owing to the fact that this bylaws committee report was so small I still have 3 or 4 minutes left. I'd like to talk to you on the eye-bank program which is becoming national and which we should interest ourselves with and the slogan as yet has not been made up, but it looks to me like those who live and see, after death, if they would sign relinquish papers to those who see could will their eyes after death. This is not a report of the constitution and bylaws committee. I said the bylaws was such a small report that I am going to use my remaining time to talk on this eye bank.

We, in California, of the Golden West Life Chapter, the original life chapter, No. 65, got in touch with the Stanford University Hospital eye bank and have the machinery set up whereby all we have to do is sign in triplicate donation of our eyes after death, give 1 copy to our doctor, send the other 2 to Stanford University Hospital and as soon as you die your doctor has the instructions what to do to take the eye out and put it in one of these bottles of which he has several, mail it immediately or send it down by highway patrol or something else so that someone lying there, someone who is blind and is waiting, has been alerted first on the program, can immediately within the 48-hour period have this transplanted to the cornea of their eye and see.

While we brought this up one time in one of the dugouts of the Trench Rats unknown to me one of our members who was one who had had a cornea transplant gave us a very fine talk. He had one eye that was absolutely as far as he was concerned—he was blind. After he got one of these cornea transplants from San Quentin brought by highway patrol, within a week he was seeing out of both eyes and forgot he was blind in a month.

I would like to see you different hospital visitors and those who are in service-officer work get busy on these eye banks back East, get busy and get it going because the DAV should be more interested in this than anything else and we will adopt some kind of slogan like "We can see after death" through our own corneas by someone we have favored with our eye.

Thank you.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there any discussion on this eye program?

Gentlemen, at this time I would like to introduce for a bow, Comrade William F. Hawkins, the newly elected commander of the Blind Veterans Chapter. [Applause.]

Comrade WILLIAM F. HAWKINS (Blind Veterans Chapter). I am sure glad to be at this convention. I sure enjoyed it and I think it has been wonderful and, of course, I am glad of the confidence they had in me to put me in again. I was acting commander. I wanted to announce that we are having a luncheon in the United Nations Restaurant at 1 o'clock, and I wanted all the members of our chapter to go as my guests to that luncheon and then we are going to have our dinner this evening at the 40 et 8 at 8:30. I thank you. [Applause.]

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. Thank you, Comrade Hawkins.

The ritual committee is ready to make their report. Comrade Elmer Baldwin, the secretary.

Comrade **ELMER BALDWIN** (secretary, ritual committee). Comrades, I wish to give you at this time the report of the committee on ritual. The committee met and voted to accept the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION No. 391

Whereas the present 9 o'clock ceremony as provided in our national constitution and bylaws ritual provides that all members rise and face the east and salute our dead; and

Whereas this ceremony was no doubt written to honor our comrades who died in Europe in World War I; and

Whereas the intent of our 9 o'clock ceremony is still good but the practice is obsolete in that when we face the east, we turn our backs to those who died at Pearl Harbor, the Philippines, Japan, Korea and all the battlefields of the west: now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the 9 o'clock ceremony be changed to read as follows: "Comrades, will you rise, face the American Colors, and stand at attention in devoted memory of our departed comrades of all wars."

RESOLUTION No. 400

Whereas the purpose of the DAV is often lost to the individual by his own personal affairs; and

Whereas the purpose of the DAV is often lost to the chapter by the business to be taken up at the meetings; and

Whereas in most cases the purpose of the DAV is unknown to the members, Be it therefore

*Resolved*, That the preamble to the constitution of the Disabled American Veterans be read in unison by all members whether the long or short form of the opening ceremony is used by the chapter.

RESOLUTION No. 401

Whereas veterans of all wars from the beginning of our country have made tremendous sacrifices in behalf of our national colors; and

Whereas all organizations that display our national colors at their meetings begin such meetings with the pledge of allegiance to the flag; and

Whereas the flag plays a major part in every meeting of the Disabled American Veterans: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the pledge of allegiance be incorporated into our opening ceremony, to be led by the commander and said in unison by all members and guests present whether the long-form or the short-form ceremony is used by the chapter, committee meeting, convention, or wherever the national colors are displayed or presented.

Those are the recommendations of the committee on the ritual and I move that they be adopted.

Third Junior Vice Commander **DAVIDSON**. Is there a second to this?

Comrade **GEORGE HENDRICKSON** (Kentucky, Chapter No. 41). Second that motion.

Third Junior Vice Commander **DAVIDSON**. Is there any discussion on the motion? Question? All in favor, give the usual sign.

Opposed?

The Chair is in doubt. Will everyone in favor of this motion stand?

From the floor. What is the motion?

Third Junior Vice Commander **DAVIDSON**. That the report be adopted as read.

National Adjutant **CORBLY**. The Chair is merely asking you to express your decision on the report of the ritual committee. The chairman of the ritual committee read a report. A motion was made to adopt. There were some yeses and some noes. The Chair did

not know what your intention was. He is now asking for those who are in favor of adopting the report as read to stand.

The motion is to adopt the report. Do you mean you want the report read again?

Comrade I. I. KURHAN (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 5). Point of information.

We would like to know what the change in the 9 o'clock ceremony was.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Would you like to have the report read again? We should always be sure of what we are doing. I didn't hear the report so I don't know what is in it. Let me read it. The chairman has already read it and generally under our procedures where there is more than 1 resolution, more than 1 change, more than 1 provision being read, we assume by your inaction while the report is being read that you are in favor of the proposed change or the proposed resolution. In reading this if you do not raise an objection to each one, we will consider that you approve of it. Then when we have completed, you have not voiced objection to any of them, then a motion will be in order to adopt the entire report. But at any time during the reading you may voice an objection to any one particular phase of the report.

Change in the 9 o'clock ceremony.

Question. What is it?

National Adjutant CORBLY (reading):

*Resolved*, That the 9 o'clock ceremony be changed to read as follows: "Comrades, you will rise, face the American colors, and stand at attention in devoted memory of our departed comrades of all wars."

No. 400, the preamble of the constitution be read at opening of meetings.

No. 401, pledge of allegiance be incorporated into opening ceremonies.

The rest of it doesn't have to be read because the committee rejected the rest of the resolutions.

Now, when this committee has been discharged, if then it is the desire of the proponent of any of the proposals which have been rejected to bring it to your attention for action, they may do it. But the committee does not report its rejected resolutions. It reports merely the ones approved.

Now, under our procedures the motion is to adopt the report of the committee on its favorable action as just now read.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. Are there any questions?

Comrade FRANKLIN THAYER (Colorado, Chapter No. 7). I would like to inquire what the significance of facing the east was at the time of its adoption. If there was a significance I would object to changing that part of our particular ritual.

Comrade HENDERSON. As chairman of the ritual committee, I would like to answer that. The reason that was changed is if someone asked you now to stand up and face the east each one of you would turn and say, "Which way is east? Which way is east?" And that is the reason we changed it.

Comrade THAYER. My question with regard to the significance of facing the east has not been answered. The explanation that was given did not answer my question with regard to the significance of facing the east that was adopted and is in our ritual at the present

time. If he can answer that satisfactorily then I can vote intelligently upon this proposed change.

Comrade BALDWIN. I will read the resolution:

Whereas the present 9 o'clock ceremony as provided in our national constitution and bylaws ritual provides that all members rise and face the east and salute our dead, and

Whereas this ceremony was no doubt written to honor our comrades who died in Europe in World War I, and

Whereas the intent of our 9 o'clock ceremony is still good but the practice is obsolete in that when we face the east, we turn our backs to those who died at Pearl Harbor, the Philippines, Japan, Korea, and all the battlefields of the west: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the 9 o'clock ceremony be changed to read as follows: "Comrades you will rise, face the American colors, and stand at attention in devoted memory of our departed comrades of all wars."

[Applause.]

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. Past national commander Brown has asked for the floor.

Past National Commander DAVID BROWN. Comrades, as the resolution was read it was read to incorporate the preamble of the United States Constitution at each and every meeting. Most of the boys attending meetings are anxious to have the business that is necessary to conduct conducted as quickly and efficiently as possible and I, for one, don't feel as though I want to go to a meeting where there are 10 or 15 boys who have been coming there week in and week out, and listen to a reading of the Constitution of the United States.

Dr. V. L. SMITH (Dallas, Tex., chapter No. 11). I am objecting to the deletion of the words "facing the east." This comes from the Old Testament and it is the custom observed by almost every Protestant denomination, but I am not too sure but that our good Catholic friends go along and face the east, hoping that the rising sun will so illuminate our minds that we will be reminded that when our time comes that we bury facing the east that we might receive the rays of the rising sun and the morning rays of the sun will illuminate the place where we are buried.

I don't like to see these things come up. I believe I am as broad-minded on those things as anybody, whether he is religious or irreligious that is his right but I don't think we are adding anything but I do think we are taking away from the ceremony, just as many of us have thought of the deleting of the word "comrade" because the damned old Communists took that. Let's leave that in there.

National Adjutant CORBLY. On a point of order and a point of information. I tried to explain to you people that we are up here to try to make things easy. This report consists of three recommendations. When I reread it for the chairman I stated very clearly that if I read one and you did not disapprove of it we would consider that it was approved. If you didn't object to any of the three then a motion would be in order to adopt the report in the whole.

Now we have had discussion on two of the provisions so you have us rather confused, so let's take the motion that we have before us, with unanimous consent, off the floor, and consider each one of the three proposals separately. Then you will know exactly what you are voting on. You can reject the ones you want or approve the ones you want, as you see fit. Does that meet your approval?

O. K. We start off. Then, the motion in order at the present time is to adopt the first recommendation, which refers to the change in the 9 o'clock ceremony.

Comrade FRANK KAULSKY (Michigan, chapter No. 5). I move the adoption of the resolution.

(There was a second from the floor.)

Assistant National Adjutant JOHN FEIGNER. On the question. Comrade commander, this may seem like a very small part of our ceremonial whether we face the colors or whether we face the east. But in changing our present ritual from facing the east to facing the national colors you are departing from one of the oldest traditions, Biblical, religious, fraternal that there is in existence.

A man when he dies is buried so that on the Resurrection Morn he shall rise with the sun in his face, from the east. We are a military or semimilitary organization and we are made up of many denominations and I believe that we are the most democratic organization in existence insofar as religious tolerance is concerned. But I regret very much and will regret as long as I live if we depart from one of the oldest traditions, religious and Biblical, to changing our ritual from facing the east to facing the colors. [Applause.]

Comrade I. I. KURHAN (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 5). I move that we retain the ritual, leave our ritual as is.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. The motion is out of order.

Comrade JOHN H. BOLIN (Missouri, Chapter No. 2). I move we table the previous motion.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. There is a motion to table resolution number 391 on the change in the 9 o'clock ceremony. Not debatable. All in favor give the usual sign.

Those opposed, no.

The ayes have it, the motion is tabled.

National Adjutant CORBLY. The second resolution before you provides that the preamble of the constitution be read at opening of meetings.

For the Chair I move the adoption of the resolution.

Comrade TEX ROSE (Beverly Hills, Calif., Chapter No. 58). Second that motion.

FROM THE FLOOR. Could I ask if they could change that to one meeting of the session? Would it be possible to have that read at one meeting of the session instead of each day? In other words, it gives us a little more time to visit rather than have it read each time.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Point of information. This proposal is that the preamble to the constitution be read at the opening of chapter meetings.

Comrade WM. J. QUIGLEY (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 16). Point of information. I can't see any objection to the reading of the preamble of the constitution on any meeting no matter how many times. After all, we are a military organization and we live by that preamble.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. All in favor of the question give the usual sign.

Opposed.

The ayes have it.

(When put to a vote, the motion was carried.)

National Adjutant CORBLY. The third one, No. 401, provides that the pledge of allegiance be incorporated into the opening ceremony. For the chairman of the committee I move the adoption of that proposal.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. Is there a second?

Comrade ORVILLE DE VANEY (Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Chapter No. 1). Second that motion.

Comrade GEORGE N. BEATTY (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 78). I think that is an insult to a disabled veteran sitting in a meeting to take a pledge of allegiance.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Point of information. This is not asking the people to take a pledge of allegiance. It is merely repeating the pledge of allegiance which every Boy Scout troop repeats at every one of its meetings. It is a reminder to us as Americans that we are delighted to every day think of our pledge to our country and to our flag, our Constitution.

Comrade JOSEPH V. RACCO (Akron, Ohio, Chapter No. 35). My name is Joe Racco, Akron, Ohio. Comrades, I have no objection to the pledge of allegiance to the flag, but let me tell you one thing. I was on the ritual committee in San Antonio, Tex., and if you comrades remember last year we had a Congressional Medal of Honor at the Democratic convention and he was greatly criticized for leaving out one word. You may have your commanders trained, your State officers, your department, your nationals, who can pledge allegiance to the flag good, but always bear in mind and remember that you are not always going to have your commanders and your department commanders and nationals at these meetings. You are going to have to rely on other people who don't know how to pledge allegiance to the flag.

You may have guests there and you may be greatly criticized. It is in the ritual, if they want to pledge allegiance they can do so.

Comrade LAURIER LA MONTAGNE (New Hampshire, Chapter No. 8). I am the department commander of New Hampshire. Mr. Chairman, and delegates, I certainly believe that everywhere we have the pledge of allegiance and when we go ahead and repeat every word of the pledge of allegiance certainly it goes into the mind of each and every one of us who are American citizens.

I want to say one more thing. How many of you here today can remember every word wherever you come to sing the national anthem? I will tell you there isn't too many of us here and we are all veterans and certainly the pledge of allegiance should be respected by every American, whether he is a veteran or not.

Comrade PAUL SCHWESIG (Department Commander of West Virginia). You all are striving for membership. Right? I think that the American pledge of allegiance at a meeting would help your membership in your local organization much more if you would pass this motion. Thank you.

Comrade WALDRON LEONARD (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 1). Of all the resolutions that I have ever heard none would better not be debated than this resolution. I move the question on the resolution.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. The motion on the floor is to adopt. There is a motion on the floor. All in favor of the motion give the usual sign.

Opposed, "no."

The "ayes" have it.

(When put to a vote, the motion carried.)

National Adjutant CORBLY. We have some 14 more committee reports and unless we can settle down, understand ourselves, pay strict attention to the reading of the various proposals we are going to be here until Sunday night. I stepped into the picture up here merely for the purpose of demonstrating to the incoming chairmen of the rest of the committees the method of procedure, so that all of you would understand. If a committee comes before you with more than one proposal in its report, we will consider, unless you object to the procedure, that when the first proposal or resolution is read we will consider it adopted unless you interpose an objection at that time.

Then they will go to the next resolution. You will give it deliberation and if you do not raise an objection to it we will consider it passed. In any instance, of course, if you raise an objection we will debate the issue and then vote as to the one that you are discussing so that when at last the chairman has completed his report, you will have in all probability rejected 3 of 10 resolutions. Then the motion will be to adopt the report as amended by the floor so if these were 10 you would be adopting the 7 you did not oppose and you would be rejecting the 3 that you had rejected.

I have the floor as a delegate to the convention for the purpose of making a motion. My motion is to express—the name is Corbly, the chapter is Cincinnati, Chapter No. 1.

Comrade JACK FEIGHER (Louisville, Ky., Chapter No. 6). Parliamentary inquiry, please. At the risk of incurring the wrath of the whole convention, since the chairman accepted to move the previous questions and revoted on that, the motion to accept the original motion was not voted on and another motion is not in order.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. We will put the motion in order.

Comrade CHRISTOPHER REILLY (New York, Chapter No. 10). Point of order. I do not believe the chairman accepted the second that the motion had been made and seconded to approve. However, not having been accepted the original motion was voted on.

National Adjutant CORBLY. You are correct. That was the way I understand the procedure. The Chair stated the motion is to adopt the report of the committee. And that is what you voted on.

Now I am submitting another motion. That the committee on ritual be discharged with a vote of thanks.

Comrade JOHN FLORENA (Blind Veterans Chapter). Second that motion.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. All in favor, give the usual sign.

Opposed?

(When put to a vote, the motion carried.)

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, the same fellow, same name of Corbly, same chapter, Cincinnati No. 1. I move you, sir, that the committee on employment and civil service be given a vote of thanks and be discharged.

Comrade LALLEY (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). I will now second the motion.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. All in favor of the motion, give the usual sign.

Opposed?

(When put to a vote, the motion carried.)

DELEGATE (Detroit, Mich., Chapter No. 5). I would suggest to the commander that when a question is called from the floor that we are merely asking that a vote be taken on the motion. They are not asking for discussion on the motion, so when we say question on the motion we want the vote to be taken. I'd like to make that clear.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. Comrade Sellers will now make his report on the housing committee.

Comrade LAVERNE SELLERS (secretary, housing committee). After that last go around I am afraid to get up here.

I have been requested by Gaddis Williams, chairman of the housing committee, to deliver the following report in his behalf. The committee was given eight resolutions for considerations. Two of these resolutions did not fall under the jurisdiction of the housing committee. Three resolutions have become obsolete before the Buffalo convention. One of the resolutions was a State or a chapter problem.

The remaining two resolutions from the State of New York and New Jersey were similar.

#### RESOLUTION No. 436

Whereas existing policy and regulations of the United States Public Housing Authority requires that all local Federal public-housing authorities must consider compensation received by disabled veterans as income and fix a higher rent accordingly, due to receipt by any disabled veteran of disability compensation; and

Whereas compensation of disabled veterans is not considered an income under Federal income-tax laws, but is exempted from income taxes; and

Whereas such policy and regulations of said United States Public Housing Authority are particularly unfortunate and injurious as compensation levels increase because the greater the disability and compensation, the greater the rent burden on the disabled veteran who can least afford same: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans assembled in national convention at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That—*

(1) The National Disabled American Veterans legislative chairman petition the United States Congress to authorize and direct the United States Public Housing Authority to henceforth exclude compensation of disabled veterans from income when computing and fixing rents of disabled veterans in public housing, and to henceforth provide that

(2) A disabled veteran who must live entirely on his compensation be charged only the minimum rent provided in the United States public-housing regulations.

Comrade Chairman, I move the adoption of this resolution.

Comrade HAROLD WHITE (Buffalo, N. Y., Chapter No. 112). Second the motion.

Third Junior Vice Commander DAVIDSON. Are there any questions? All in favor, say "aye."

Opposed?

(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

National Commander BURKE (now presiding). A motion is in order to discharge the committee with thanks.

Comrade FRANK KAULSKY (Detroit, Mich., Chapter No. 5). I make a motion that the committee be discharged with thanks.

Comrade JOHN FEIGNER (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 1). Second.



(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

National Commander BURKE. Can we simmer down a little bit and perhaps when we know we are going to speak on a subject, get near that microphone.

The Chair now introduces Henry Rivlin, the chairman of the legislative committee, to make his final report.

Comrade HENRY RIVLIN (legislation committee). Comrade Commander, and delegates to this national convention: The following is a report of the legislative committee. I will read the number of each resolution and the recommendations of the committee for your consideration.

#### RESOLUTION No. 105

Whereas for many years last past the progress of veterans' legislation in the Congress of the United States has been hindered and obstructed by the lack of a permanent and separate committee for veterans' affairs in the Senate of the United States; and

Whereas the confusion resulting therefrom has been prejudicial to the welfare and advancement of much beneficial veterans' legislation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, urge our Senators and Representatives to support the creation of a separate standing committee in the Senate of the United States for the consideration of all legislation dealing primarily with veterans' affairs.

#### RESOLUTION No. 147

Whereas grave markers are now furnished by the Government for graves of deceased veterans and former members of the Armed Forces; and

Whereas certain cemeteries do not approve the markers furnished by the Government: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the convention of the Disabled American Veterans go on record favoring the passage of legislation which will give the next of kin of a deceased veteran or former member of the Armed Forces who becomes deceased, the right to choose between the acceptance of a Government veterans' grave marker, or a cash allowance to be applied toward the purchase and erection of a memorial chosen by the next of kin.

#### RESOLUTION No. 439

Whereas the Disabled American Veterans as an organization devoted to the welfare of the war disabled, their widows and orphans, is opposed to any preferential type of legislative consideration placing bills for the relief of the service-connected veterans on a secondary or subordinate basis to pension bills for the non-service-connected veterans, as is now the case through the channels provided by rule No. 11 of the Rules of the House of Representatives, and

Whereas the present discrimination undoubtedly stems from the fact that the Congress, some years ago, enacted a law defining the terms "compensation" and "pension" with no corresponding change made in rule 11: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans at their national convention assembled, August 19-23, 1957, at Buffalo, N. Y., oppose the present preferential treatment in enabling pension bills to channel from the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to the floor of the House to the disadvantage of compensation bills which must be referred to the House Committee on Rules after approval by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs: be it further

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled direct the national director of legislation to take such action as is necessary and may be within his power to insure that proposed compensation legislation is removed from its present unfavorable status, as described above, and that legislative equalization be effected by a change in the rules, at the earliest practicable date.

#### RESOLUTION No. 440

Whereas certain bills in both Houses of the Congress were considered by committees in executive (closed) sessions and the representatives of the recognized service organizations and other interested groups and individuals were

thus deprived of the opportunity of appearing at a formal hearing and of making and submitting for the record their views and statements, and

Whereas there seems to be during this 1st session of the 85th Congress a decided trend to dispose of important veterans' legislation in committee through the executive or closed meeting procedure which prevents the members of the committee from developing additional facts through the valuable question-and-answer sessions that always follow the formal representations at open hearings: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in national convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957,* That this organization deplore the trend toward executive (closed) sessions on the part of congressional committees considering veterans' proposed legislation and that the Disabled American Veterans through the national director of legislation bring this resolution to the attention of the chairmen of the respective committees and urge that open hearings be scheduled at all times, whenever possible, for the purpose of enabling interested groups and persons to appear and through our democratic processes give their testimony, announce their preferences as to various items of pending veterans' legislation and to offer their reasons for their positions in these matters.

#### RESOLUTION No. 441

Whereas the legislative committee of the Disabled American Veterans has received several resolutions for consideration of the need for national cemeteries in specific areas: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans at their national convention assembled August 19-23, 1957, at Buffalo, N. Y.,* That we request the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, through the national director of legislation, to make a continuing survey of the need of additional national cemeteries for the burial of deceased war veterans.

#### RESOLUTION No. 442

Whereas there is now held in the Treasury of the United States many millions of dollars, which large sum was formerly the property of citizens of former enemy countries but which became vested as the result of agreements reached with our allies and with such former enemy governments, and

Whereas under the agreements mentioned above the United States waived reparations and assumed title to these moneys, and

Whereas strong forces are at work to induce the Government of the United States to turn back to the former enemy owners the moneys now vested in our Government, despite the agreements entered into with their governments under which said government promised to reimburse the former enemy subjects: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention Assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957,* That this organization oppose the efforts being made to return the vested moneys, as stated above, and that the Disabled American Veterans strongly urge that the moneys referred to herein and as made available to the United States under The Trading With the Enemy Act, be utilized in a noble cause of great benefit to our own people; namely, the education of the children of veterans as provided in pending legislation now before the Congress. Such a program under such circumstances will not place a burden of cost upon our own Nation but will be financed by subjects or citizens of former enemy nations that caused death and havoc throughout the world.

The following resolutions are recommended by the legislative committee to be referred to the national headquarters for administrative policy: Resolution No. 305, dealing with congressional charter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart; Resolution No. 394, dealing with the endorsement of statehood for—

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, what was the proposal with reference to the Purple Heart?

Comrade RIVLIN. That this be referred to the administration for policy action rather than legislative action.

The resolution, No. 305, is asking for the granting of a congressional charter to the Order of the Purple Heart.

And No. 394 deals with the granting of statehood for Hawaii. We recommend these be given to the administration for policy action.

The following resolution is recommended to be referred to the national executive committee for further study and authority and power for action. No. 348 deals with certain moneys which is in the treasury pertaining to profits out of canteens in various services. This was presented by Millard Rice. We felt it needed much more study and therefore recommended that this resolution be turned over to the national executive committee for further study and with full power to act.

The committee wishes to express to Major Clark, his assistant Mr. Freudenberger, our appreciation for their able counsel and advice they have given to the legislative committee and by motion duly made and seconded and carried that the report of the legislative director be accepted and approved by the legislative committee.

The chairman of this committee at this time wishes to express thanks and appreciation to all the members of the legislative committee for their splendid work. The committee is composed of Joseph Del Bonis, Walter Hinkle, Henry Rivlin, J. O. Montagne, Marion Williamson, Daniel Boone, Gerald M. Smitley, John Richling, Judge Michael Carroll, John Kalland, Franklin Thayer, William Carson, Perry E. Dye, Kenneth Frazier, and Dr. Roy V. Gerken.

This completes the report of the legislative committee and we, the undersigned members, approved and signed the report.

I move for the adoption of the report.

Comrade F. T. RIGGS (California, Chapter No. 32). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. Motion made and seconded.

Comrade I. I. KURHAN (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 5). I would like to know among all the resolutions whether or not there have been resolutions rejected.

Comrade RIVLIN. The committee did go through all the resolutions and some of the resolutions were rejected. Some of the resolutions were replaced by resolutions arising out of the committee by reason of duplication.

National Commander BURKE. On the question. All those in favor?  
All those opposed?

The ayes have it, the motion is carried.

(When put to a vote, the motion carried.)

Comrade FLORENA (Blind Veterans' Chapter). Comrade Commander, I move that the committee be discharged and given a rousing vote of appreciation. In the 5 years that I have attended DAV conventions I have never heard such a concise, intelligent, complete, and significant report. [Applause.]

Comrade L. J. DIEDER (Fort Wayne, Ind., Chapter No. 1). I second that motion.

National Commander BURKE. Motion has been made and seconded to discharge the committee with thanks. All in favor. [Applause.]

Opposed?

(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

National Commander BURKE. From the State of Texas the Chair is pleased to bring before the convention, former National Senior Vice Commander Alex Simon, to report for the committee on national defense.

Comrade ALEX J. SIMON (committee on national defense). I am very happy while everybody is calm and quiet and in a good humor to present the final report of the committee on national defense.

There were 4 resolutions that came before the committee on national defense, Resolutions Nos. 22, 76, and 380 all dealing with subversive activities. These were consolidated into one resolution and is hereby reported favorably by your committee as Committee Resolution No. 434.

RESOLUTION No. 434

Whereas the Disabled American Veterans, more than any other organization, knows from actual experiences the disastrous results of each and every war that our country has taken part in; and

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States recently reversed a previous ruling pertaining to the investigation and conviction of certain Communists; and

Whereas apparently the Constitution of the United States does not provide the protection for our loyal citizens that it provides for members of the Communist Party; and

Whereas it is the feeling of our membership that the purpose of the Communist Party in the United States is the forcible overthrow of our form of Government; and

Whereas the present laws of our land do not protect our country from the infiltration of Communists or the identification of same; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That we, in national convention of the Disabled American Veterans, hereby commend the efforts of the various investigating committees exposing subversive activities and earnestly request the Congress of the United States to appropriate generous funds for the courageous campaign of our legislators and their staffs; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we go on record as encouraging the Congress of the United States to enact laws to prevent any further infiltration or to propose a constitutional amendment that will protect our country from such subversive influences; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Congress enact legislation to prevent the opening of FBI files in any subversive cases.

RESOLUTION No. 435

*Be it resolved*, That this 36th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans urgently requests the State Department and the President of the United States to exert every effort to bring about the immediate liberation of all Americans presently held as prisoners by the Chinese Communists.

Resolution No. 435 arose from the State of Georgia.

Mr. Chairman, I move the adoption of the report of the committee on national defense.

Comrade THOMAS Q. ADAMS (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 16). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. Any discussion on the question? Hearing none, all those in favor?

All those opposed?

The "ayes" have it and so ordered.

(When put to vote the motion carried.)

Comrade LEO W. LALLEY (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). I move the committee be discharged with a vote of thanks.

Comrade HARRY J. ANDERSON (New Orleans, La., Chapter No. 27). Second the motion.

(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

National Commander BURKE. From Rhode Island I bring to this convention for the report of the Auxiliary committee, Ira Einhorn.

Comrade IRA EINHORN. (committee on DAV auxiliaries). National Commander, delegates:

RESOLUTION No. 445

Whereas there were no resolutions submitted to the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary committee, and

Whereas the committee feels that the Ladies Auxiliary is a necessary and integral part of our organization, and

Whereas in some cases there is not a close working relationship between the parent organization and the Ladies Auxiliary, and

Whereas it is felt that if it were not for the Ladies Auxiliary, many worthwhile projects and activities would not have been accomplished: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That this committee wishes to commend the Ladies Auxiliary for their outstanding contribution and assistance during the fiscal year 1956-57, and that since they are an indispensable part of our organization, that this committee recommends that the close contact be kept with the Auxiliary by the use of a liaison officer to work with the Auxiliary or some other means which could be worked out locally to further improve our objectives to help our disabled comrades.

We of the committee move the adoption of this resolution.

Comrade PETER McDONALD (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 17). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. On the question, all in favor, say "aye."

Opposed?

The "ayes" have it.

(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

Comrade DONALD H. DUNN (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 1). Move that the committee be dismissed with thanks.

Comrade OLLIE TENNANT (Washington, D. C., No. 1). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. All in favor?

Opposed?

Carried.

(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

National Commander BURKE. The Chair would like to point out to the chairman of the Auxiliary committee, that since we don't send in any resolutions about the Auxiliary we do so because they must be doing a good job anyway.

The Chair introduces at this time, to make a report on Americanism, Harold Knapp.

Comrade HAROLD G. KNAPP (Americanism committee):

RESOLUTION No. 107

Whereas we must have national unity in order to protect the United States from without and preserve our valued heritage; and

Whereas disunity existed during the times immediately before the dastardly attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941; and

Whereas the attack on Pearl Harbor brought about complete unity among our peoples, thereby assuring victory to our Armed Forces; and

Whereas observance of the day is deemed necessary to keep our people in constant alertness to preserve our way of life; and

Whereas continued observance of Pearl Harbor Day as such connotes doubt as to the real meaning of the observance, namely, the actual attack or the resultant victory of the United States and her allies; and

Whereas observance of that day as suggested in this resolution will bear a special significance and emphasize the importance of unity among us as a Nation: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the convention herein assembled, unanimously adopt this resolution and in order to carry out the import of this resolution to its final realiza-

tion, this convention mandates the legislative officer of the Disabled American Veterans to exert every effort and ability, through channels, to have enacted into law by the Congress of the United States the intent of this resolution.

RESOLUTION No. 131

*Be it resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans take the necessary steps to effect the issuance next year of a United States postage stamp to commemorate the founding of our great organization in the year of 1920; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the first issue of these stamps be sold in Atlanta, Ga., origin of this resolution. [Applause.]

RESOLUTION No. 379

Whereas it was jointly announced in the public press by the commanding general, 6th United States Army, commander, 4th Air Force, and the commander, Western Sea Frontier, that the policy of rendering religious rites by military chaplains to veterans interred in national cemeteries will be discontinued, and

Whereas, throughout the history of our Nation, military chaplains of the various faiths have rendered religious rites as part of the military honors accorded veterans interred in national cemeteries, and

Whereas this has been an honored tradition valued and cherished by those in sorrow who have laid loved ones to rest in cemeteries set aside by Congress for veterans who have honorably served our Nation, and

Whereas if the newly proposed policy is permitted to remain in effect, the loved ones of deceased veterans will be denied a very cherished and desired help that can be rendered by the chaplains of the Armed Forces, and

Whereas this policy change is not only accepted with great concern by the Disabled American Veterans, but it will also be viewed with alarm by the relatives of deceased veterans and all citizens of a grateful Nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19 to 23, 1957, That we strongly oppose this policy change and urge the Secretary of Defense and the Congress of the United States to continue with the honored tradition, cherished by those in sorrow who have laid loved ones to rest in cemeteries set aside by Congress, for our comrades who served our Nation honorably in time of war.

RESOLUTION No. 369

Whereas citizens of these United States serve in the Armed Forces throughout the world in order to maintain these democratic principles upon which this Government of ours is founded, and certain rights are inherent in that citizenship as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, and

Whereas it is apparent that these rights are being abrogated by our Government in its relations with foreign countries through agreements surrendering its citizens to foreign courts for trial; and

Whereas such action is contrary to the rights of a citizen while serving his country, to be judged by the laws of his own government: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled, thereby demands that the sovereign rights of all citizens of the United States of America, while serving in the Armed Forces on foreign soils, be maintained according to the Constitution and laws of our country; and that no citizen serving in such military duty be tried by the courts of any foreign country for alleged crimes committed in that country while on military duty; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Government of the United States shall at no time abandon or surrender the rights of its citizens through treaty, agreement, or otherwise with any foreign government.

RESOLUTION No. 356

Whereas during 1953-54, the Schumann-Heink Chapter No. 2, Kansas City, Mo., did promote the display of Old Glory from all homes; and

Whereas this promotion was spearheaded by the Kansas City Star-Times, the leading daily newspaper of the Middle West, plus Intercity News; and the

Independence Examiner, and many other papers in Kansas City and St. Louis area, with good results; and

Whereas the Kansas City chapter presented a resolution requesting each chapter in the United States to promote this project in their own way; and

Whereas this resolution was officially adopted at our 1954 convention and published in the convention report and the Semi-Monthly: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Semi-Monthly, each issue during the 1957-58 year, remind the chapters of their obligation, to either sell flags or influence their merchants to display, advertise, and sell flags for home display on legal and national holidays.

#### RESOLUTION No. 70

Whereas November 11 of each year, formerly known as Armistice Day, and now known as Veterans' Day, has been set aside as a legal national holiday by Congress to pay tribute to those men who paid the supreme sacrifice in World War I, World War II, and the Korean conflict; and

Whereas many mercantile establishments, retail stores, and specialty shops whose executives and owners are forgetting those soldiers in armed services that made the supreme sacrifice so that they may live to carry on their business, open their places of business: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled, go on record as favoring the application of the Sunday law so that Veterans' Day, November 11, may be properly observed.

I move the adoption of the report of this committee.

Comrade GEORGE SCHREINER (Cincinnati, Chapter No. 1). Second the motion.

Comrade M. K. WILLIAMS (Nebraska, Chapter No. 7).

What is the procedure from the chair on resolutions which we are in agreement with but we believe we have submitted one which has covered the same subject more thoroughly?

National Commander BURKE. You don't say you don't like any resolution in here, do you?

Comrade WILLIAMS. I referred to 369 which we are 100 percent behind in Nebraska. However, we submitted 13 identical resolutions covering the same subject matter, except we also asked that our Government investigate military servicemen who had already been tried and are in prison to see if their sentences were just and if not, that action be equally taken upon those personnel already cared for by our foreign allies in a bad way and as such we believe our resolution is more complete and still contains the subject matter of No. 369. Therefore, I wondered whether or not we would have an opportunity to propose a substitution of the Nebraska resolution which was issued or presented rather, to national in 13 separate resolutions.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade commander, point of order. Under our rules the subject being discussed at the present time is not in order until this committee report has been accepted and the committee has been discharged. At that time then discussion on the other resolution is in order by the proponent of the resolution.

Comrade WILLIAMS. Member from Cincinnati, I didn't ask to discuss the resolution. I originally asked for a point of information. In making that point of request for information, I had to add the additional remarks which are now referred to as discussion. Therefore, I would like to be construed as not out of order but still seeking a point of information.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Under my point of information you are entitled to your proposals and arguments and discussion after discharge of this committee only.

National Commander BURKE. All those in favor say aye.

Opposed?

So ordered.

(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

DELEGATE (Department of Wisconsin). I move that the committee's report be adopted and the committee discharged with thanks.

Comrade HARRY ANDERSON (New Orleans, Chapter No. 27). Second the motion.

(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

Comrade WILLIAMS. Mr. Commander, am I now in order?

National Commander BURKE. The Chair recognizes the delegate.

Comrade WILLIAMS. To save time I will not repeat what I previously requested. However, I would like to have the resolution from Nebraska covering all the subjects of resolution 369, presented to the convention. I so move.

Comrade LEO LALLEY (Boston, Chapter No. 10). Out of courtesy to the member from Nebraska, I will second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. A motion has been made and duly seconded. Any discussion on the motion?

All those in favor say aye.

All opposed no?

The Chair is unable to determine a division. All those in favor say aye.

All opposed?

The ayes have it, the motion is carried.

Will the delegate now read the resolution from Nebraska?

Comrade WILLIAMS. It causes me great embarrassment, Mr. Commander, we have submitted the identical resolution to the national convention, 13 chapter resolutions. I have about 150 copies but I fail to have them on me. However, I am quite sure that your committee chairman has 13 resolutions properly prepared, three copies double spaced.

Assistant National Adjutant JOHN FEIGHNER. Comrade Commander, I have the pleasure of presenting Col. Sidney Lambert and Allan Piper of the Canadian War Amps.

(The convention rose to applaud the visitors as they were escorted to the rostrum.)

National Commander BURKE. Give us the sense of that resolution.

Comrade WILLIAMS. We are merely pointing out that beside the original resolution that was adopted, that we asked Congress to include in the legislation that the case of other Americans who have been tried and sentenced by foreign courts be reactivated to determine whether proper justice had been made.

National Commander BURKE. You are asking those cases be reviewed. You are making that in the form of a motion?

DELEGATE (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 1). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. Motion has been moved and seconded that a resolution be passed favoring the review of cases where American servicemen have been tried by foreign courts, and sentenced. Any questions?

All those in favor, say "Aye."

Opposed, "No."

The ayes have it. The motion is carried.



I want to say before we have the next report we are going to have one of the finest speakers that will ever address this convention. I am going to ask those near the door to ask those who are outside to come in and be seated and while we are doing that we will ask Franklin Thayer to give another preliminary credentials report.

Comrade FRANKLIN THAYER (chairman, credentials committee). This is going to be very short unless somebody is going to insist on me reading the whole list again.

Since the last report there have been two chapters who have paid their amounts due to national headquarters, Rhode Island No. 10 and Vermont Chapter No. 15. Now you will recall that when I made my initial partial report there were a great many chapters who are indebted to national headquarters. You were advised at that time that if your chapter was indebted and if you were a delegate that you would not be given the privilege of voting until that indebtedness was cleared up. That is true, and if there is any question about your chapter standing, see me immediately after the session and I will check with you and clear, and show you whether or not your chapter is in debt. There will be a final report before election.

Comrade LEO LALLEY (Boston, Chapter No. 10). I may be wrong, but it is my understanding if the indebtedness is for Forget-Me-Nots it will not stop a chapter from voting at this convention. Am I right or wrong?

National Commander BURKE. I will get an opinion. We will take the question up later, Leo. We are looking it up.

The Chair at this time is pleased to bring before this convention one of the outstanding figures in Canadian veterandom. He has spoken numerous times at the request of Disabled American Veteran chapters such as Cincinnati on Armistice Day. He is a man who has been the Dominion president of the Canadian War Amputations consecutively since World War I. He is a man who at all times is full of the understanding and the wisdom that somehow or other seems to come to those who have been severely disabled. They learn how to live and act the part much better, I believe, as human beings because they have learned what suffering means and have resolved, as a result, to help our comrades. We have many people in the DAV the same way. And so at this time, because of his outstanding citizenship, the affection in which we hold him, I am asking this convention to rise when I introduce him for the purpose of talking to this convention, Lt. Col. Rev. Sidney E. Lambert, O. B. E., president of the Canadian War Amputations.

(The convention rose to applaud.)

Lt. Col. Rev. SIDNEY E. LAMBERT (Canadian War Amputations). My dear friend, your commander, my very distinguished comrade of other days, Vivian Corbly, members of your executive committee, and comrades of the Disabled American Veterans, I brought this morning with me the head of our Key-Tag Service, Allan Piper. He is a young veteran of the Second War. He is a double amputation and one of the smartest veterans on the continent of America. Isn't that saying something for him? I want you to meet Allan.

(The convention rose to applaud.)

When I get a string of medals like him, I think I will be a hero.

And so again I come to your convention. And I have been a number of times and had loads of fun. I think, Mr. Commander, you have invited me to every convention and to come at my age, and you know I am getting on, I tell you how to get a raise in pension. First of all, be a Canadian, and then come to the United States of America, have your pension check sent here and you get 5 percent extra. [Applause.]

Another way is to get on in years like I have done, and become 70 years of age and then you receive \$46 per month extra for being an old veteran. So if you want to come to a good country and get a big pension, come to Canada.

But the greatest thing of all in our organization, we call them the Fragments over there, they were originally the Fragments of France in the First World War, organized in 1919 and they organized into this Fragments group, the War Amputations of Canada. They were first of all the Amputations Association of the Great War and they wear the gold badge on the lapel and it has A. A. on it. Now you know what A. A. represents, don't you? A dear old lady came up to the padre one day and said, "I am so glad to see you with the A. A. badge, to give up the drinking habit and join Alcoholics Anonymous." And by the way, it isn't untrue of some us either.

But the little badge means a great deal. In any city almost in Canada all you have to do is jump on the buses, no charge; jump on the streetcars, no charge; get a free license for your car, no charge; get the tax exemption from your gasoline extra, send in at the end of the month how much you used and you get a rebate for the tax. You see you have to do something to keep the organization going.

But let me tell you one thing and Vivian, I want to tell you, I have brought with me an appreciation plaque to this organization. We meant to do this a long time ago. Come on up a minute, Mr. Burke, with him, because you two are to hear this and this is headed, "The War Amputations of Canada."

In appreciation of the services rendered to the War Amputations of Canada this plaque is presented to our comrades of the Disabled American Veterans at their national convention held in Buffalo, N. Y., August 1957.

It is signed by Hubert S. Baxter, the honorary Dominion secretary, and Sidney Lambert, the Dominion president. Now isn't that a nice thing for you fellows to have. See? [Applause.]

This plaque was made by one of the greatest firms in the city of Toronto that make these lovely plaques and who do you think they are? The Key-Tag Service of the War Amputations of Canada. They make these things and that is who made that, made by our own comrades in our own workshop.

We do almost anything in our own workshop. We not only issue key tags and tags like yours, but we make all sorts of things. Fact of the matter, we just had an order the other day for all the ribbons for the Canadian National Exhibition, all the rosettes and the ribbons that they hang on the cows and ponies and calves and all the rest of it, made by the Key-Tag Service of the War Amputations of Canada. We are in business, and no tax either.

I just wanted to tell you a few things about us because we are everlastingly grateful to the Disabled American Veterans because it was you who gave to us, without any question, our key tags. You came to Toronto and offered us the facilities of your office, of your mechanics, and they introduced the key tag service into Canada and it is a huge

success. The fact of the matter, we have so much money in our key-tag funds that we don't know what to do with it. Can you imagine? They don't know what to do with the funds. We issue the branches a few thousand dollars and they write back and say, "What will we do with it?" I know what you would do if you ever had that opportunity in some of your branches, wouldn't you? That is what they do with us and we are exceedingly thankful and the reason Allan and I came today is to say a great big thank you to your organization.

Now, Vivian, you will be glad to hear that, won't you, and be sure and tell Koolish, too. Because he came up years ago and that is why the War Amputations of Canada is a success. Our great job is your job. Your job as Disabled American Veterans is ever to stand guard over the disabled exservicemen, women and children of this country, to care for widows and for orphans, and to give the disabled veterans of this country the same opportunity in life as they would have had had they not been disabled. And more than that. Don't be afraid to talk to Senators about it. Don't be afraid to talk to the public about it. You know it is so easy to criticize a group of fellows like that, isn't it? You know they can always find some flaws in the organization. "What have you done with your funds?" The hell with them. Why do they want to know what we have done with our funds? Let's take care, as we always do, and keep our names and our heads very high, for after all there would be no Canada, there would be no United States of America, there wouldn't be any freedom in this world at all were it not for the sacrifice of men like you and those comrades whom you honor here, who gave their lives in the service of this country. That is the story.

Our indebtedness to the country and to the world and to the cause of peace has already been paid. The thing that people must do for us is to see that the pathway for these who are disabled for all those thousands of comrades who never again will have the same opportunity, for those who day upon day in the quietude of their homes, in the quietude of whose life, are still fighting the battles of the first Great War, in Normandy and France and Flanders, still continuing the battle in hospital and in home and they know they are going to lose, you see. They know they are going to lose.

I tell you, I lived for 40 years as the Padre in the hospital with them. I know what I am talking about. How day by day these fellows have difficulty in keeping their spirits high and this organization of their disabled comrades have to see to it with all the prowess that they possess. Be undaunted. Don't get fed up with these people. Just maintain the standard that you have set and see to it that adequate and proper pensions and provisions shall be made for all those who have served and sacrificed in their country's call, that is our business. That is our business.

It is nice to bring you the greetings of the War Amputations. Wonderful group of fellows. I wish we could have brought all our executives with us. We have a wonderful executive group. They stay with us, you know. I was going to say to your commander, I was going to say to him—you know we only have had one commander in our organization. When they organized in 1920 as a Dominion group they chose this particular humble Padre. I had been a private soldier for 5 years. You have to be a private soldier to know what the soldiers are like. And the things they taught me I have never

forgotten, some of them I wish I could. But I have never forgotten the things these fellows taught me. And so all the years from 1920 to this convention of ours which is going to be held at the end of September, the first week in October, and I hope your commander and your adjutant will be there with us in Victoria, British Columbia, one of the most beautiful spots that there is on the continent of America, and we invite you to come and meet us there in Victoria and all the years since 1920 they have reelected me as their Dominion president. I tell you to last that long, fellows, you have to be good.

And another thing, you have to be fair; and another thing, you have to be a good speaker. And another thing is that you have got to be courageous. Now most of us have learned to be courageous in other days. I never wear my medals, but it takes half the day to shine them up. I don't know how long Allan took to shine his, but he has three more than I have. They got more in the Second War than we did in the First. There is one thing about mine. I have a gold one here, you don't have to shine it. That is pure gold and it is the Order of the British Empire and you only get that—they come up with the pork and beans in the rations really, it is only given to the first one they meet.

So, after all the years together we have tried to maintain the standard of the disabled ex-serviceman of the country in which we live and God only knows there are so many who are indebted to you. There are thousands who are receiving gifts and pensions today because of the success of your organization at headquarters and in your own branch, and I congratulate you all most heartily, and it is an inspiration to be with you. Don't give it up, stick to the bitter end as long as they will have you. Stay with it. The old veterans, yes, and the young veterans, too. I am so glad to see so many nice young ones there. We have some lovely young amputees, and one day I am going to give one of them the presidency of the organization. He has got to be as good as I am. He has to have the pep that I have, and then he has to have the courage. He has to be able to talk to—I was going to say the president, but we haven't got a president. Sometimes I wish we had, but we haven't.

Wouldn't you love it if we came over to this side of the border and ruled out the border and said, "This is Canada and the United States together?" But we are never very far apart. All they said to us when we came along the line was, "We are going to have a group of ours, you are going to meet us and come to Canada." This imaginary line, it is the only country in the world that has an imaginary line and not a gun all the way along, not a gun. And so we, as comrades, live in peace together, Canada and the United States of America. We are proud of you. We are just as big as you, you always talk about the big United States. You ought to talk about the bigness of Canada because our acreage is bigger than yours is and underneath the ground up there, in the northern part of the country there is everything the world needs. If these Russians could only have guts enough to come over and take us, they can have all the uranium that there is in the world.

But they are behind the Iron Curtain. Old Fritz in Germany tried it and see what he got. And Hitler tried it and you know what he got. And they can't do that. You stay behind the Iron Curtain

and do what you darned well like, but don't come across our line is all.

And so on this very happy occasion, and I must conclude, on this very happy occasion when we bring to you very cordially the greetings of the War Amputations of Canada I remember one young fellow who was in the hospital with us for many years with a tremendous disability. He was never able to feed himself, he was never able to get out of bed, but his head was screwed on right and the nurses used to come and turn over the pages of the book and he used to read. And I used to go along with him and I would say a prayer for him sometimes, I love to say a prayer for somebody, there is something in this organization you can do when you can't give them anything else, you can always pray for them. My prayer list is a tremendous list. I don't forget people. This young fellow I was going by his bed one day and he said, "Padre, I have a poem in my mind. Would you write it down for me?" So I took down my pencil and wrote down this. He said, "I am going to call it The Ode to The Serious Illness." He is gone now, to Heaven, and this is what he said:

Did you every stop to think  
What the end of your life will be  
When your breath stops  
And your heart pops,  
And your eyes no longer see?

In comes the doctor and sounds your heart  
And says, "He's dead,  
So carry him out  
For we need the bed."

In comes the orderly  
And its you he grabs,  
And its you he puts  
On a cold, cold slab.

In comes the undertaker  
With a beautiful box,  
A carcass suit  
And a pair of sox.

They put you in  
The old black hack.  
You go for a ride,  
But you don't come back.

They put you down  
In the deep, dark hole  
And the padre says,  
"God rest his soul."

Then up you go to the Pearly Gates  
Where Peter sits in grand estate.  
And Peter says in a voice so sad,  
"You can't come here, you've been too bad."

So down you go.  
And in a tick,  
You are face to face  
With the Old Nick.

You don't like him  
And so you try to bluff,  
He says, "You can't come here,  
You are too darn tough."

So, boys, take heed  
 And you get ready.  
 Cut out the rough stuff  
 And be more steady.

Or when you leave this world of woe  
 You'll be all dressed up and no place to go.

The same man, just before he died I saw him again, and he was an English chap. He came from a place called Norwich in England and before the end came he said to me, "I have another poem." And this is what he gave to me and with this I conclude.

I am just an ordinary bloke  
 Without much education,  
 But at times I like to think  
 About the problems of the Nation.

We hear a lot of grumbling  
 About our legislators,  
 But most of all, it seems to me  
 From foreign agitators.

They boast of Adolph Hitler,  
 Mussolini and Stalin, too.  
 And they tell us of the wonders  
 That communism can do.

If everything's so rosy  
 In their homes across the sea,  
 Why do they live in America  
 Is a thing that puzzles me.

There's a good old-fashioned saying  
 As true as the stars above:  
 Love the land you live in,  
 Or live in the land you love.

[Applause.]

National Adjutant CORBLY. One of the great privileges of being your national adjutant has been my acquaintanceship and friendship with the good padre. He gave you, in his rousing talk, a hunk of my own philosophy. When A. L. Koolish and myself presented to our national executive committee a proposal that we give the War Amputations of Canada our Identio-Tag item, little did we dream that they would develop a product of the disabled of the United States to the extent that it would make them overflush in Canada. They took an American idea, conceived by an American disabled veteran organization, into the Dominion of Canada, and through the amputation organization of their nation and with the assistance of the people of their Dominion developed it far beyond our fondest expectations or realizations.

In Canada, the padre has had the absolute cooperation of all of the members of his association ever since the year 1 in 1920 when he became its first and alltime president. And because they gave him and the key-tag operation such outstanding cooperation, and because the citizens of his nation responded so willingly, they receive a 42-percent return on their mailing while we receive a 16-percent return from our mailing.

We can take a number of pages out of the books of experience of our brother Canadian organization. We are very happy to have the privilege of having them with us and this afternoon when we meet with 30 or more of their other members at the Brock Hotel after we

leave the Peace Bridge, I want all of you to become personally acquainted with them.

It was some several years ago when we migrated to a national convention by way of Niagara Falls in the days when prohibition was king and the king was reigning in Canada. This outfit took us into Toronto and wined us and dined us as prohibited people could not be wined or dined at home. We will never forget their hospitality on that occasion.

We accept their invitation to be with them at their national convention this year. The national commander will attend in British Columbia, and if I am a good boy I hope he will bring me with him.

I like a bit of his philosophy. I am not 70 years old and I haven't been with you as an employee since 1920 but I have quite a stretch in and I think I am just as good as he thinks he is good. And I think I have got courage. And I know I can talk, and I am sure I am going to be with you for quite awhile. At least until that time that a young man can be found and trained with the same courage, with the same abilities, to take over the job at hand.

Padre, and your outfit, we appreciate your attendance. I assumed the prerogative to respond because our national commander had been called out of the room to answer an important telephone call with reference to H. R. 52.

We want to present to you and hope he will talk with us because we had the pleasure of a visit from him at national headquarters just very, very recently, the comrade of the padre, Allan D. Piper, director of the key-tag of the War Amputations of Canada.

(The convention rose to applaud.)

Mr. ALLAN D. PIPER (War Amputations of Canada). Thank you. National Commander, executive officers of the Disabled American Veterans, all. It is indeed a wonderful pleasure to be here with you on this occasion. You know when the padre was speaking I thought of a story I'd like to tell on him. He mentioned the fact that he liked to say a prayer for someone. And I know that that is the gospel truth, because on one occasion he was taking a stroll in the evening along a country road in England when he came on a truckdriver who couldn't start his truck. And the convoy had left him some time ago. In the meantime he had spent many long minutes trying to get his truck to go. The air was blue, needless to say. And the padre came up to him and said, "What's the matter, my good man?"

He said, "I can't get this blankety-blank truck started, Padre."

And he said, "Well, have you tried everything?"

He said, "Everything, Padre."

He said, "I am sure you haven't said a prayer."

And the truckdriver looked at the padre and said, "Well, by Jove, I haven't."

The Padre said, "Look, let's kneel down in the road and say a little prayer." So they did. "Now," the Padre said, "you get up into that truck and see what happens." So the driver did and he climbed up into the cab, he turned on the ignition key, stepped on the starter and, lo and behold, the truck motor burst into life and he disappeared down the road. And as he did, the Padre stood out in the middle of the road with his hands on his hips watching the truck disappear and you could hear him mutter under his breath, "Well, I'll be damned."

The Padre also spoke of courage. I think that he is one man to us indeed, anyway in the War Amputations of Canada, who exemplifies the word. A man who has been our dominion president ever since we have been organized since during the First War. It is a wonderful accomplishment. I don't know where he gets his stamina. He spoke of the War II amputations, the young War II man. Well, I don't know as we are so young. We have had World War II and a half in the meantime, and I think they are the young veterans. I don't know of anyone amongst us who is ever going to take his place. I don't think anyone can. I think you will agree with me. To us, as I say, he exemplifies the word "courage."

Speaking of courage I would like to digress for a moment if I may, to mention one particular individual of your organization who, to me, exemplifies that throughout your Nation and not only yours, but ours, too, because we look on him as an inspiration to all who are handicapped, a man who has overcome very severe obstacles. I know that there are others but he, I think, is one of the most outstanding. One of your members, Harold Russell. He has come to be known in Canada as well, perhaps even better, than in the United States. Because of his extensive travels, his wonderful message that he has given to everyone who might believe that they have a handicap. To me there is no such thing as a handicap unless it is something that affects the mind. Because I have seen myself in many instances men who have surmounted all obstacles to become useful and good citizens of our country. I think they are the best of citizens. I know that nothing disturbs them, that nothing will interfere with their mode of life which is the best mode of life there is.

I know in my own particular case that before the war anyone who would point to me and say, "Well, you are a Canadian." I'd be inclined to say, "So what?" But after the breadth and width of an ocean separated me from Canada I began to realize what it meant to be a Canadian as I'm sure the same thing happened to many of you. You began to realize how much it meant to be a Canadian or an American. Through those first lonely months over there, then you had time to think back and realize that it was a wonderful privilege indeed to belong to a free country. And I think because of that, and because of the serious disabilities that many of us suffered, we are better citizens. I think that we have something that no one else has. For a long time I couldn't just define it. But I have defined it. I believe that we have a greater appreciation of values, and I am sure that that appreciation of values will show up in your deliberations here and your presentations to your Government to right any wrongs that may have been done or to further the way of the disabled.

I would like to thank you one and all and to extend to you an invitation at any time you are in Toronto which is not very far away, Toronto, Canada, if you ever come down to 740 Bay Street we would be most happy to show you our operation. I extend to you a very, very cordial invitation at any time. In the meantime, God bless you, one and all.

(The convention rose to applaud.)

National Commander BURKE. Let me say to you, Allan Piper, that we in the Disabled American Veterans and as citizens of the United States not clearly entitled to the word "America," because your country is part of this continent of North America, I would like to see



perhaps the day when the word "American" is synonymous with the citizens of the United States and the citizens of Canada, because the relationship between our country has been such when I was a boy and went to school I learned about that great country across our borders and the earliest trip I ever made as a youth we crossed into Canada without any difficulty, and came back again. I had the privilege of going to Europe about a month ago and the only other time I had been there was by courtesy of the Cook's Tour which the United States Army gave in World War II. But I realized something. When you go to a land like Israel that has a thousand miles of border and every night someone slips across either way, and murder is perpetrated while peace is supposed to be declared, you get an understanding then of what it is to have an unfriendly nation on your border. And even though the great countries of Europe, your mother country of England, and France don't have the harmony and the close co-operation we have, travel between countries, barriers of language, all those things which make it difficult to communicate but we can always say, those of us who are privileged to live near the borders of Canada know it even better, those who live further away but have visited and know what the interchange of relationships mean between us and know that the destiny of the free world is probably more intertwined in the relationship in those two countries which have become the bulwark and that we understand that there is peace and hope for this world. A great deal of it will depend upon our relationship, our strength united with that great country across the border, the Dominion of Canada.

I forgot to mention the plaque. I would like to thank you Colonel and you, Allan, for this plaque that was made in your shop. I might even go so far as to say it looks better than some of the plaques we make. But it isn't the fact that it's made better or looks better or I think can be any better. I think it rests with the relationship pure and simple, that over the years in your Ident-O Tag work and your close association with the Disabled American Veterans I think the reason why Mr. Corbly and I forgot about the plaque is because we don't need to exchange plaques. We exchanged hearts a long time ago. [Applause.]

You remember when I was going off the platform, which I didn't want to do while the Reverend Colonel Lambert was speaking, but I had to go upstairs to talk. This is the situation. I still can't give you the favorable word we are all looking for from Washington. I still think it hangs in the balance. My information is that the weight of evidence, however, is not in our favor because the interest is not shown throughout the United States. There are only 42 telegrams on the President's desk. Now there are other people besides us involved. I asked you yesterday to wire the President of the United States but cautioned you to wire courteously. You don't get mad until you have been refused. At the present time we have not been refused. I do know the Bureau of the Budget has prepared for the President's analysis, which in itself doesn't mean anything too much because the Senate Finance Committee got such a briefing also, but, however, every bill that goes to the President's desk, especially where there is some area of doubt, is accompanied by a briefing. I don't think a Percival Brundage briefing would be very favorable to us

because of his admitted, and his Bureau's admitted objection to H. R. 52 when it was in the Senate Finance Committee. I know that you have come a long way. You don't have too much money. But I don't think there is anybody in the room that can't afford to send a night letter of 10 words in the name of his State, if he is a State commander, in the name of his chapter if he is the chapter commander, to let them know that there are people from all parts of the country who are interested in the passage of H. R. 52.

Now it means a lot to me. I think you will agree that we have all worked pretty hard on it and we have got it through the House unanimously and we have it through the Senate unanimously. If it fails it fails, but don't let it fail because of the fact that we are not working for it.

We want H. R. 52. It is needed. There hasn't been a cost-of-living increase for over 4 years. If we don't get that, then I can't see how we can actively work as we do in the passage and the interest of the Disabled American Veterans and its legislation if we are going to let a job which we have all worked hard on up to now, drop because it is on or near the President's desk. So send telegrams, send nice telegrams, saying, "Please sign H. R. 52." Get your name and title, the part of the country it is from. The fact it is from Buffalo, it is from a convention, they know there is a convention here. Get in the fact you are from Grand Island, Nebr., or Boston, Mass., so it has effect even though it is from Buffalo. So let's send some telegrams.

The Chair recognizes on a point of personal privilege, Alex Simon of Texas.

Comrade ALEX SIMON. Thank you very much, Comrade Commander.

Our national commander, our national staff, all of our national officers, and some of you State officials, and some of you blue-cap members have been working hard to get this H. R. 52. To me, it is a personal thing. I get \$4 a month raise if it passes. Think about it. You are cheating me out of a \$4 raise.

Look fellows, I just got through talking to the Congressman this morning. He is very, very unhappy. Only 42 telegrams from such a grand group of fellows, he said, "Alec, what's wrong?" Don't you fellows realize that right there in Washington today they know that we are here in this convention, they know we are here from all over the United States. They are expecting to hear from us and if they do not get the telegrams, the pocket veto will kill your bill. Alabama, Arkansas, California, New Mexico, Minnesota, have you sent your telegrams yet? Texas. Have we sent them yet from every chapter? Then let's send some more, get your wives, get the auxiliary members behind this thing. I wish we had 4 or 5 members like the Padre in every State in the United States. By gosh, he'd send one. Yes; I have sent one and I am going to send another one. Now let's go out and send the telegrams. You will never get the bill if you don't. Please.

Don't criticize your national commander if it fails, criticize yourself. Have you done your share? Let's back the House committee, let's back the Senate committee, let's do something. Don't sit there. This is more important than anything that has ever occurred at this convention. Invest a potential \$4 or \$5 or \$6 raise that you will receive; gamble; send a telegram. Plead with them. It is very, very important.

Now as soon as we recess, let's get hold of the auxiliary members, let's get hold of all the guys in the hall politicking, let's get them up in the closed rooms politicking, let's make it our motto today, everybody send a telegram. Pretty please, pretty please, let's go.

Comrade WILLIAM KOHLAN (Minneapolis, No. 1). I rise for the purpose of stating that although the previous speaker was on the right track he is overlooking one very important factor. It happens to be a coincidence but maybe fortuitous, that we as members of all the disabled are here at the exact moment when the President is deciding whether he should or should not.

Individual telegrams are fine, but if we are meeting collectively why can't we show by one telegram, in addition to these individuals, that we are for H. R. 52. In this telegram we can state that we have here unanimously by a rising vote, by thunderous request, requesting the President to consider everything that has gone before now, these months of deliberation into H. R. 52 and support this bill because if he does not support the bill he is not keeping good faith with the thousands of the dependents who will suffer. So at this time I make a motion here that we resolve unanimously as the delegates throughout the entire United States, representing all the individual members of the DAV, all the disabled who are not members that we pray the President sincerely approve H. R. 52.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA (now presiding). Corbly asked for the floor next.

National Adjutant CORBLY. I rise for the purpose of seconding the motion with this suggestion which I trust and ask be acceptable to the maker of the motion. That the national commander appoint a committee of two to draft an appropriate telegram to the President of the United States, expressing the unanimous views of the members, delegates, alternates, and visitors to this convention, as outlined in the words of the maker of the motion.

Comrade KOHLAN. Comrade Corbly, I think the suggestion is very excellent and I sincerely include those suggestions in my motion.

Comrade WM. N. MORRISON (Cincinnati Chapter No. 1). I rise for the purpose of seconding the motion.

Comrade WALDRON LEONARD (Washington, D. C., Chapter No. 1). I rise for the purpose of supporting the motion. True, it is very important that the telegram go from here. One of our officials yesterday stood in the hall, one of the vice commanders, and pigeon-holed the boys, in response to the commander's request to send telegrams—47 telegrams went to that desk yesterday. This telegram will certainly add a lot to it, but I am just asking you and suggesting that this should not prevent each one and the various sections of the country from sending telegrams in there and I would like, Mr. Corbly, to just suggest that this be done because it is a wonderful suggestion for us to do it but also when they come to Sherman Adams like this—now gentlemen, I told you yesterday this was important. I believe it is important, I have reason to believe it is important. And I think your commander now has reason to think it is important, too.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor?

Opposed?

The motion is carried.

(Col. Lambert and Mr. Piper left the convention to a rising applause.)

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Was there a delegate over there that wanted to ask a question?

Comrade FRANKLIN THAYER. He wanted to ask a question and I am in a position to answer now. The question was whether or not indebtedness to the national organization for Forget-Me-Not supplies would prevent a delegate from voting and we had to refer the matter to the judge advocate, who will answer it now.

National Judge Advocate HOFFMANN. Rule 14 of the convention rules provides that indebtedness for current or future Forget-Me-Not supplies shall not be considered as disqualifying a chapter from voting. A current Forget-Me-Not program under Article X having to do with finances is one where not more than 30 days have elapsed since the drive has been completed. So if you owe money to national for Forget-Me-Not supplies on a drive that has been completed for more than 30 days you are ineligible to vote until it is paid.

Comrade DOUGLAS H. MCGARRITY (Detroit, Chapter No. 5). I understand our Canadian friends are holding a Veterans Day at the Canadian National Exposition in Toronto this coming Saturday. I checked with the padre before he left and he expressed his willingness to have this announcement made before our delegates, and invite them to attend if they possibly could. That is this coming Saturday, Canadian National Exposition at Toronto, Veterans Day.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Thanks very much for the information. I hope as many of us as can will be present in Toronto on Saturday.

At this time, while Assistant Adjutant Feighner is getting ready for the drawing, I wish to make a presentation and I will ask the Maryland department commander, Everette Herrick, to come to the stand.

This is the membership trophy from the fourth district. Because Maryland was a 1956-57 winner for the greatest increase in membership over the previous year I now present to you, Comrade Everette Herrick, this trophy. Congratulations.

Comrade EVERETTE HERRICK (department commander, Maryland). Mr. Commander, national officers, delegates, I have been briefed just a bit on this trophy and I understand it is a trophy that is passed from one department to another within the district. Now it is a great pleasure to receive this trophy. It is going to be a hard thing to do to give it up. The Department of Maryland does not intend to give it up. We intend to win it again next year. Thank you very much.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Congratulations again.

Now unless there is any other pending business, we will have the attendance drawing. Commander Hawkins of the Blind Veterans will draw the names from the box.

(Prize drawing.)

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. I will call on the national chaplain.

National Chaplain PICKETT. We will ask our past chaplain of our State, Hassell Thigpen, to make the benediction.

Comrade HASSELL THIGPEN. We want to thank Thee, our Father, for Thy presence in transacting our business. We pray that the

business may be of benefit to the members of this organization. All this we ask in Thy name. Amen.

First Junior Vice Commander HETALA. We will recess until 9:30 tomorrow morning.

(Whereupon, at 1:20 p. m., the convention was recessed until 9:30 a. m., of the following day.)

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

August 23, 1957

The 5th business session of the 36th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, was held in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., at 9:30 a. m., Friday, August 23, 1957. National Commander Joseph Burke called the session to order.

National Commander BURKE. The convention will be in order. We will have an opening prayer by the national chaplain, Reverend Pickett.

National Chaplain PICKETT. This morning I want us to pray this together, the Lord's Prayer, which the Savior taught His followers, I will join you.

Our Father who are in heaven, hallowed by Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair wants to appoint sergeants at arms to keep order on the floor, Sylvester of Michigan, Cass Saber, Matt Werel, and Eugene Gruntz.

The first report we will hear will be from Perry Dye, from Washington, on commendations and condolences.

Comrade PERRY DYE (commendations and condolences committee. My comrades, this is one of the very pleasant committees of the convention. The condolences committee, as you know, is intended and we hope, shall be the method by which we will condole those whom we should condole and thank those whom we should thank, and without further ado I shall go into the resolutions that the committee has recognized and do pass.

#### RESOLUTION No. 186

Whereas employers throughout the United States have been responding in a more favorable manner by placing increasing numbers of disabled veterans in suitable employment since the enactment of Federal legislation providing for the observance of 1 week each year known as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week, and

Whereas the continued success of this program has rested, to a very large degree, on the activities of the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled, That we heartily endorse and commend the activities incident to the observance of NEPH Week, and particularly the President's Committee, for its untiring efforts to outline and promote such activities.*

Resolutions 195 and 281 are identical and we have combined them. If there is no objection, as I cover each resolution we will go along with the report until the close in the hope of brevity, my comrades.

## RESOLUTION No. 195

Whereas the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped has, for several years, been sponsoring among the high-school students of the Nation an essay contest on the general subject of employment of the physically handicapped; and

Whereas the national organization of the Disabled American Veterans has been furnishing the prize money and round-trip expenses of the winners to our National Capital; and

Whereas each year there appears to be wider participation and interest in this contest, thus calling to the attention of more and more of our citizens generally, the great service rendered by the Disabled American Veterans, particularly with reference to rehabilitation and employment of our disabled veterans: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled*, That we highly commend our national organization for its generosity in furnishing the prize money and expenses of the national winners of the essay contest, sponsored by the President's Committee, and we urge its continuing support of such project.

## RESOLUTION No. 248

Whereas Representative Edith Nourse Rogers of Lowell, Mass., has started her 33d year of service in the Congress of the United States, having been elected to serve the unexpired term of her late husband, John Rogers, on June 20, 1925; and

Whereas Representative Edith Nourse Rogers is primarily responsible for the present veterans' hospital program, and had a major part in the drafting of the GI bill of rights; and

Whereas Representative Edith Nourse Rogers has been a persistent advocate of veterans' rights, particularly, disabled veterans, all of whom have a deep affection for this charming lady, who is able, kind, and charitable; and

Whereas all disabled veterans admire her courageous action and record of accomplishments in Congress, despite strong opposition: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, congratulates Representative Edith Nourse Rogers on her extraordinary record of 32 years' service to the disabled veterans, and extends to her our sincere appreciation.

I might state as this is the 25th anniversary of the Economy Act this resolution is intended to commend those men who so valiantly stood against terrific odds at the time the unjust Economy Act was being perpetrated upon the disabled veterans. This is what it says:

## RESOLUTION No. 375

Whereas the month of March 1958, will mark the 25th anniversary of the passage of the so-called Economy Act of 1933, which inflicted a heartless and unjust blow at America's disabled veterans; and

Whereas too few Members of that Congress were possessed of the courage of their convictions to a degree sufficient to motivate them to openly oppose that vicious piece of legislation; and

Whereas as the 25th anniversary of their courageous stand approaches it is fitting and proper that the Disabled American Veterans memorialize and commend the honorable stand of the legislators who fought and voted against that iniquitous act: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans by appropriate resolution express its commendation honoring Senators Everett K. Dirksen, of Illinois, and Dennis Chavez, of New Mexico, together with Congressman John McCormack, of Massachusetts, Clarence Cannon, of Missouri, Jere Cooper, of Tennessee, and Charles Wolverton, of New Jersey, for their honorable and courageous stand against overwhelming odds in favor of disabled veterans; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of such resolutions, upon adoption and passage by the aforesaid National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, at their national convention in the City of Buffalo, N. Y., be prepared and transmitted to each of said legislators, memorializing the deep appreciation of the Disabled American Veterans for their valiant stand in our behalf.

My comrades, for many years, almost too many to remind you of, we have had a great comrade from Russellville, Ala., who you very well remember, Roscoe Nix, of Russellville, Ala. We have a resolution of commendation to him and this is it:

## RESOLUTION No. 443

Whereas for many years Roscoe Nix of Russellville, Ala., has attended and been a part of national conventions of the Disabled American Veterans, and

Whereas this convention has missed his attendance because of illness: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the convention and delegates wish him all possible recovery and a future unbroken attendance as well as the best of good wishes from the 36th annual convention of his outfit, the Disabled American Veterans, assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 18 through 23, 1957.

Resolution 422, this was requested by the California delegation and is so read.

## RESOLUTION No. 422

*Be it resolved*, That when the 36th National Convention of Disabled American Veterans adjourns, it does so in the memory of Earl Spencer of Long Beach, Calif., who passed away while serving as an active delegate of this convention.

The resolution of appreciation emanating out of the committee is as follows:

## RESOLUTION No. 444

*Resolved by the 36th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 18 through 24, 1957*: That we express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all groups and agencies and individuals of Erie County and Buffalo area, for their unselfish contributions that have made possible a successful convention to wit:

To Mayor Steven Pankow of the great city of Buffalo and his able staff of devoted city government;

To the chief of police and courteous officers;

To Frank J. Williams, general convention chairman and his associates, the 1957 Convention Corp. and board of directors, the Erie County chapters, Disabled American Veterans; Emil A. Fasolino, department commander, DAV; William A. Birmingham, honorary president 36th National Convention, DAV; Milton D. Cohn, honorary chairman, 36th National Convention, DAV;

To the United States Naval Band: Director, Warrant Officer D. M. Stouffer and artists;

To all regional office and central office officials and staffs of the United States Veterans' Administration;

To all persons assisting in our national memorial service;

To Capt. Cicero F. Hogan and his entire staff of national service officers;

To the press, radio, and television of the area for their fine coverage and consideration;

For the transportation of officials, delegates to all ceremonies and attractions of the convention;

To all distinguished guests of our fellow veteran organizations and their auxiliaries;

To officers and personnel of our own national headquarters for their sincere interest and cooperation and able help in matters of benefit and business of this convention;

Also to all groups and individuals who by their services and talent made possible this successful convention;

To our national commander, Joseph F. Burke and his able official family and to Mrs. Helen Ishmael, national commander of our Ladies Auxiliary, Disabled American Veterans, and her official family;

Also to the National Order of Trench Rats and Alley Cats;

*Be it further resolved*, To extend sincere condolences to all dependents of departed comrades in the past year.

Comrade Commander, I would like at this time to thank the members of this committee for their cooperation and service with the committee and move the adoption of this report, and that the committee be discharged.

Comrade DRISCOLL (Blind Veterans Chapter). I second the motion.

Comrade WILLIAM KOHLAN (Minneapolis, Chapter No. 1). William Kohlan, Minneapolis Chapter No. 1, Minnesota department, respectfully seconds the motion.

National Commander BURKE. Motion made and seconded.

Discussion?

All those in favor?

All opposed?

The motion is carried.

Comrade HENRY J. OTTEN (Davenport, Iowa, Chapter No. 2).

Comrade Commander, I have a motion for the condolences that can be brought up.

National Commander BURKE. I would like to point out the only way a resolution can be brought up at this time is with unanimous consent.

Comrade OTTEN. I'd like to make a motion to hear my motion if I could.

National Commander BURKE. What is your motion?

Comrade OTTEN. It is on the membership award.

National Commander BURKE. What is your proposal quickly?

Comrade OTTEN. Scott County Chapter 2 would like to propose that the national membership award pins as do other veterans organizations. Right now the Department of Iowa makes such an award.

National Commander BURKE. Was this resolution submitted to a committee for study?

Comrade OTTEN. It was too late. We tried but it was too late.

National Commander BURKE. Under our rules unless you get unanimous consent you can't bring it on the floor at this time.

Comrade OTTEN. I would like to make a motion that it be allowed on the floor at this time.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, so as to give an opportunity of expression to the convention I move you, sir, that unanimous consent be given to this delegate to present his resolution at this time.

Comrade JOHN BOLIN (Kansas City). Second that motion.

National Commander BURKE. All those in favor?

Opposed?

There is not unanimous consent. I will suggest if you can't get unanimous consent that you send your resolution in to the national headquarters.

We forgot our manners this morning, we still have the committee to discharge.

Comrade ALFRED F. CHURCHILL (Detroit, Chapter No. 5). I move that the committee be given a vote of thanks and discharged.

Comrade EDWARD C. GRIGG (Washington, Chapter No. 16). Second.

(When put to a vote, the motion carried.)

National Commander BURKE. I want the convention's indulgence for about 10 minutes. As all of you know, your national commander had an opportunity to go to Europe about a month ago. And at that time it was to be in company with the national commander of the American Legion, "Dan" Daniel; the national commander of the



Veterans of Foreign Wars, Cooper T. Holt; national commander of the Catholic War Veterans, William Gill; the national commander of the AMVETS, Dominick Strada; and the chief of staff of the Jewish War Veterans, Herbert Block.

This was the first time that anything like this had been attempted in the history of the veterans' organization because knowing that all national commanders are *prima donas*, they felt it would be difficult for six of them to travel together on the same plane and eat together. The trip was successful from the point of view that these national organizations did just that. Oftentimes I hear that the delegates will express to me in the corridors that it is most important that we get along with our brother veterans' organizations. Well, I have a slight bit of news for you this morning. Your leadership in your national organization will get along. Some day perhaps we can reach the other field.

The trip was successful because it was on the basis of a people-to-people program in which we, as veteran leaders talked to our opposites on foreign shores. The reason why those six national commanders got together as well as they did was because of the presence of a man who was the chairman of that veterans committee. He is the cochairman of the veterans committee of the people-to-people program. He is the past national commander of the American Legion in his own right.

I can say very honestly the first man asked to speak in Europe was myself. I don't know why particularly. It always amused me. But this man worked hard in the interests of this trip and accomplished what seemed to be almost the impossible, that we could get these organizations in principles and viewpoint together.

We became good friends because he is the type of man that you can become friendly with. He is a good leader, good chairman, and he wants to tell you in a few short minutes a little bit about the people-to-people program and what it represents and what it means to veterans.

At this time it is my pleasure to bring before this convention, from Pasadena, Calif., past national commander of the American Legion, member of the California rehabilitation commission under Austin Healy, Lewis A. Gough. [Applause.]

Mr. LEWIS A. GOUGH (people-to-people program). Thank you, Commander Joe. Distinguished members of the Disabled American Veterans. Talking to you on the people-to-people program I'd like to tell a little story about four sailors who were in a foreign port on Sunday morning and being good sailors they wanted to go to church but they did not know the language of the country. They found a church but they didn't understand the customs of this church so they decided among themselves they would follow some individual who looked like he knew what it was all about and seat themselves beside him and do as he did. And sure enough, pretty soon a knowledgeable looking gentleman went down the aisle to the first row, and seated himself on an aisle seat. The four sailors seated themselves alongside. They watched him. He blessed himself, they blessed themselves. As he mumbled something they would mumble. When he kneeled they kneeled. He stood up and they stood up. The church was in an uproar. Finally one individual who could control his laughter and spoke a little English, came down and explained that the priest had said, "I am about to baptize this baby. Will the father please stand?"

Last September President Eisenhower called together some 50, for the most part, very representative citizens for a meeting at the White House to launch a program that was his idea, a people-to-people program. The theme of the White House conference was simply this. In today's basic world battle of ideas and ideologies what governments may do or say is important. But what people do and say is decisive. People have the power to prevent future wars.

Since that time 42 committees have been formed representing most of the major interests and occupations of people: Farm, business, education, movies, the press, fine arts, music, hobbies, tourists, veterans and so on. These are private committees, run by private citizens, raising their funds from private sources.

However, to coordinate we have a general board with Charles E. Wilson, of General Electric, elected as the president; a good veteran, Bill Donovan, as chairman of the board.

The purpose and objective of the people-to-people program is to encourage people to develop contacts with other peoples in the interest of understanding and friendship which leads to peace and world freedom and unity and progress. Friendship is based on understanding and understanding in turn is nurtured by the exchange of ideas and information between people, particularly enhanced by the mutuality of interest of doctors talking to doctors, musicians to musicians, veterans to veterans, and so on.

Our veterans committee is particularly important because more than any segment of our population the veterans hate war. They know what it is, especial you in the Disabled American Veterans, and veterans desire to achieve the final victory without more casualties, without more disabled veterans. Unfortunately our military victories do not achieve our goal of world peace and world freedom. Armament and treaties are not enough. Something more is needed. As veterans we know the capacity of our allies having served with them, shoulder to shoulder, to meet a common challenge and there isn't any stronger emotional motivation for esteem and for confidence between people than that which comes from the fraternity of comradeship in arms.

Now our veterans committee was formed as Commander Joe told you, of the national commanders of the six representative major veterans organizations. The DAV and the AMVETS, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Catholic War Veterans, the Jewish War Veterans. Eddie Rickenbacker and I were appointed as the cochairmen.

It is rather an innovation in itself. It is the first time in all history that the leaders of these organizations have met together, have approved a program, have worked together for the implementation of that program. We have had two committee meetings, one in New York and one in Washington, for these veteran leaders.

Much has already been accomplished. One of the organizations through its posts, raised \$16,000 to provide escapee kits to the Hungarian refugees as they came into Austria. Another organization bought all the Hungarian refugees dictionaries to provide them as they came into our ports. We have sent book shelves, tons of magazines, we have two of the organizations planning pilgrimages abroad and to Latin America. But top priority was given to a trip where our national commanders would meet with the national commanders of the nations of Europe and the Middle East.

The purpose of the trip was to develop friendship and good will and understanding among these veteran leaders, and we had the opportunity to meet with some 45 national commanders in Israel, in France, in Italy, in England, to develop the interest in our program. I'd like to emphasize right here that the money to finance this trip was raised from private sources. We emphasized that abroad. It was not a Government propaganda agency and incidentally there was no drain on the budgets of any of our organizations.

In meeting with the veteran leaders we found them to be appreciative and friendly and receptive for the most part. I'd like to illustrate the attitude we found in our closed meetings by quoting two of them.

Alexis Thomas, le president general, Union National Des Combattants of France stated: "We have pleasure in proving our pride of having participated in the same combats for a common ideal of liberty. We veterans must have that fellowship which unites us, which is normal among trusted friends, to better appreciate our respective positions, and above all to permit better understanding."

And as we were introduced in Tel Aviv by Ed Nussbaum, president, World War II Veterans Association of Israel, he stated: "Our impression thus far of our guests and their feelings is this—that it seems to me the words 'good will' express everything. Searching for a way to truth and a mutual understanding and a united fight for freedom and peace. I hope that this visit will advance the aim of fraternity and peace amongst all nations and among all people."

That gives you a little of the attitude we received everywhere. The attitude I emphasize was appreciative and friendly, and most receptive to our mission.

But we also, on the critical side, found misunderstanding and disagreement concerning international and political and economic developments. In these closed meetings we gave these commanders the opportunity to express their viewpoints which they did freely because therein lies understanding. We reported to them that we would report their viewpoints to our administration in this country, and this has been done.

But we do not minimize the difficulty of our task. What we did in our trip, what we are doing, is only imitating a very small ripple in a very large pond, and it emphasized continued people-to-people contact based on a mutuality of interest.

We learned much about the countries we visited, we didn't confine ourselves to the capitals. We moved out into the field as time would permit. In Israel we went from the Gaza strip to the Bible lands. We talked with veterans, with leaders, with people, and we learned much about the hopes and the aspirations and the problems, the ambitions of these people to create understanding. We did the same in France and elsewhere. We participated in ceremonies wherever we went. We rekindled the flame at the Arc de Triomphe, we laid wreaths wherever we went. We did such things as you did and I'd like to compliment your organization for the hands across the border ceremony yesterday at the bridge where with the war amputees in Canada you joined hands. That is something that will receive national publicity. I heard it on the radio as I left Washington yesterday, and it is something in the interest of peace and understanding for which the people-to-people program does stand.

Our press conferences abroad were held jointly, that is, the commanders of the foreign organizations, and I would like to say that there was not one single derogatory line in any paper that we saw or have seen since, throughout all Europe, and our press was extensive, and that is a real compliment to our commanders abroad.

I'd like to say a word about the conduct of the commanders and I will assure Joe we will skip over the social tour of Paris. We had little time, actually, for rest and recreation and short tours. Our commanders proved their maturity by their experience, their ability, by their understanding, their actions at all times. They made indeed a real contribution to the success of our mission. Without exception they have indicated to me since the trip that they believe we have accomplished much and it was a good beginning.

It is rather a pilot operation. We are the first committee, we are in the lead of the other 42 committees and the others will gain experience and valuable background information by our trip.

Yesterday morning I had the opportunity to report to President Eisenhower. My report was timed for 8:45. The National Security Council was to meet at 9 o'clock. At 10 minutes after 9 the President was still asking me questions. He held up the National Security meeting because of his tremendous interest in our program and he was most complimentary to the work of our committee.

One more thing and that is the followup. It is very essential that we follow up the mission that we have established. That means exchange visits. Already the French and Israeli are definitely coming to us and the Italians and the English probably will as well. This means that perhaps next year some of them may have distinguished guest status at your convention. Some of them may even be asked by you to speak before certain of your committees. Perhaps some of them before the convention general session itself.

There is a possibility of exchange courtesies of those of us that travel abroad and those that are veterans that are authenticated that come to us to extend to them the privileges of our possibly establishing liaison abroad for a contact point that will keep us abreast and will give us suggestions from the field.

I would like to express my very deep appreciation to the Disabled American Veterans for your support of the principles of the people-to-people program. We sincerely appreciate the great contribution that has been made by your commander as a working member of our committee and incidentally, you get to know a man after you have lived with him for 2 weeks under the conditions we did, conditions of tension and stress, and you have truly an exceptionally fine national commander. I saw one letter that came back from official sources to official sources in Washington that so complimented your national commander that it pointed out that his personality and his sagacity and his wit was such that they recommended he be made a permanent member of any further commissions to travel in that country. [Applause.]

In summary, we have made a good beginning toward creating a favorable climate, something governments have never been able to do and people can and must. A favorable climate between nations and between peoples in which the international problems can be settled and I think the whole thing was expressed well when we say

that those of us in our committee believe that intercontinental friendship is the best substitute for the intercontinental missile.

Thank you so much, Commander and delegates, for your time.

[Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. Thank you, Commander.

The head of the California Rehabilitation Commission is here. There is a long-running argument that I have heard many times in California between this gentleman and Harry Wentworth as to who was the first elected department commander in California in the Disabled American Veterans. It reached the stage of a court suit once. It developed into quite an argument, and they have been arguing about it for some 30 years, but also it is very important to the Disabled American Veterans that we have people of the type of Austin Healy on our side in these rehabilitation commissions. I might be giving away a little secret in front of Lewis Gough, but I don't think he will say anything other than I could—that here is one of your leading disabled veterans in California and a man who heads the California Rehabilitation Commission. May I now present to you Austin Healy. [Applause.]

Mr. AUSTIN HEALY (California Rehabilitation Commission). Thank you, Comrade Commander and members of this convention. It is a pleasure to be with you this morning. I came from California to take another look at the rehabilitation program of your great organization because of the fact that California contracts with veteran organizations to carry out its rehabilitation program.

During the past 10 years that I have been a member of the California Veterans' Board, we have contracted with you to the tune of a million dollars. We have contracted with the American Legion, we have contracted with the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the AMVETS. This type of contract between the State of California and the veteran organizations has proven most helpful, not only to the veterans themselves but to the States. In the last 12 years we have contracted in the amount of \$16 million, and your organization has presented to the State of California by way of claims and put into the treasury of the State of California \$600,000. Now, that is a terrific investment and a wonderful business deal for the State. And I am here to thank you for the fine cooperation you have given the State and to see what I can learn from some of the delegations to improve the type of work that we are performing.

Thank you very much, and on behalf of Gov. Goodwin Knight, of California, I'd like to say that he, being a veteran himself, is deeply interested in this rehabilitation and has assured me that he will do everything possible to perpetuate it.

National Commander BURKE. Thank you, Austin.

The Chair will now yield to Jack Feighner for purposes of an introduction.

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGNER. Mr. Commander, delegates to this convention, if any of you delegates have been out on the streets of Buffalo and have seen a little gray-haired man selling \$1 bills for 50 cents and you didn't buy his entire stock, you just lost a good deal. There is a man sitting on this platform whom I have had the pleasure of knowing for a number of years. He has more gimmicks and gadgets and ideas, vitality and personality, than any man that I ever met.

A few years ago your then national commander and Mr. Corbly, the national adjutant, called me when I was in Florida representing the national commander and told me to hurry back to Washington which was my headquarters at that time, with the instructions to go to New York and meet with the advertising agency of the Ted Mack show. We were going to California, San Francisco, to put on a national convention and in the way of entertainment we were going to assist in the production of the Ted Mack show which many of you delegates saw.

During one whole day, and I mean a whole full day, I listened to a man talk and give me instructions and advice as to how to put on a Ted Mack show. And when that man wasn't talking this old gray-haired man was talking and they were talking a language that I knew as much about as I know about Chinese.

The art of advertising and publicity is not my field. However, I went to California and I started to work. I was there about 3 days and I received a telephone call and he said, "This is Col. Bill Shirley." I didn't remember Col. Bill Shirley because my mind had been so filled with publicity that I had forgotten all names. This man came to the office and assisted us in putting on a show. He ran my legs off. One day he came into the office and he said, "Well, today is my birthday." I said, "How old are you, Bill?" He said, "I am 80 years old." And I said, "That's a lie." So he pulled out a birth certificate and showed it to me and I said, "That must be your grandfather's. That can't be yours." He drew from his inside pocket a special permit from the State of New York to drive an automobile.

I have had the fortunate pleasure of being associated and meeting this man many times since, and each year I receive a birthday greeting. He has a corporation, a closed corporation, family corporation, and each year he declares dividends and it usually amounts to about 10 cents. This year I got a birthday greeting cut out of a shoe box with a postage stamp on and my address and attached thereto was 1 penny and he said, "Times are hard. This is all we can afford."

I am happy to present to this body this morning the youngest old man with more vitality, zip, and go, and will beat any one of you delegates in a 100-yard dash any time you want to put up the money, Col. Bill Shirley!

Col. BILL SHIRLEY. Gentlemen, I am not going to take a lot of your time but I must reflect back to San Francisco and I will say that it is one of the fondest memories, one that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. It was a great pleasure to work with Vivian Corbly and Jack Feighner and the rest of the crew. I had a great time and as Jack says, I was then 80 years old, no, I was 81 because last June the 26th I was 87 years old. [Applause.] Jack doubted me on the driving license and I didn't blame him but I had to and I did produce my birthday certificate, St. Louis, Mo., 1870.

I know, gentlemen, there is a lot of work ahead and I am not going to take a lot of your time, but again I will say it is a great pleasure meeting with all of you fellows this morning and if I can only come back here in about 13 years which will make me 100, I will have a good time with you.

Thanks for everything. Good luck and hope to meet you again soon. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. He may be 87 years old but I wouldn't want to trust him with any of my girl friends.

You know one of the pleasures of being a national commander, although you get news once in a while that makes you sorry you ever became national commander, but one of the pleasures is the fact that you meet some dedicated people as you go along the route. Such a dedicated person is one you all know, you know him far better than I do. But here is the chairman of a committee, and a responsible committee, here this morning. I think one of the better things that ever happened to DAV, Bernie Southard, will conclude the report of the rehabilitation committee.

Comrade SOUTHARD (rehabilitation committee). The report of the convention committee on rehabilitation claims and insurance. The report of your convention committee will be in two parts. The first section will include the resolutions for the purpose of improving the status of disabled veterans and their dependents. If the delegates will agree, I will identify the resolution and just give you the meat of the resolution that is recommended by your committee, and if there is no objection I will consider it as acceptable. I believe this will save time and then we can call for a vote on the entire report.

#### RESOLUTION No. 447

Whereas malignant cancer is a slow progressive developing condition and in many cases is not properly diagnosed for 3 or more years, and

Whereas only 1 year has been granted following a veteran's discharge from service in cases of malignant cancer and since a 3-year presumptive period would be more appropriate which has been applicable in certain other chronic diseases: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in national convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, go on record as requesting an extension from 1 year to 3 years on the presumptive period following the veteran's discharge from service in cases of malignant cancer, for both treatment and compensation purposes.

#### RESOLUTION No. 46

Whereas numerous war veterans suffering from combat neurosis and other functional nervous disorders and mental disease often find it necessary to seek medical treatment in special VA hospitals which are designed as psychiatric institutions, and

Whereas experience has shown that over the past 2 years virtually all war veterans having been compensated for acquired psychiatric conditions are treated in these mental hospitals and then released with a new diagnosis showing that the entire nervous or mental disturbance was actually a constitutional defect, and as the result the veteran's compensation is terminated forever, and

Whereas it is a known fact that in many of these cases the veteran lived a normal and adjusted life prior to service without any signs of nervous or mental impairment. Many of them were in service for a period of years and broke down through hazardous combat service, and so agreed by the physicians in service and reexaminations following discharge until the new concept which is apparently prevalent throughout the VA system, and

Whereas it is not reasonable and not tenable to expect the public to believe that virtually all of these war veterans were born as constitutional misfits and that their war service simply brought out these congenital defects: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, mandate an investigation of this new psychiatric philosophy employed by the Veterans' Administration in its many institutions.

## RESOLUTION No. 319

Whereas the present law does not provide the establishment of service connection for reinfection type of pulmonary tuberculosis, and

Whereas this creates a severe hardship upon many veterans suffering from tuberculosis immediately following their discharge from the military service, and

Whereas we believe that this reinfection type of tuberculosis could have easily been aggravated by the strenuous duties performed while a member of the military service: Therefore, be it

*Resolved, by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That we go on record requesting the Disabled American Veterans' national legislative chairman and the Disabled American Veterans' national director of claims to sponsor legislation to amend the present law to permit the granting of service connection for the reinfection type of pulmonary tuberculosis.*

## RESOLUTION No. 322

Whereas Public Law 239, 82d Congress, permits the Veterans' Administration to give treatment to veterans suffering from psychosis providing the disability is diagnosed within 2 years from the date of discharge, and

Whereas service connection can now only be granted if said disability is diagnosed within 1 year from date of discharge, and

Whereas we believe that the law should be amended to include service connection as well as treatment for psychosis diagnosed within 2 years from the date of discharge: Therefore be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in annual convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That we go on record requesting Congress to sponsor legislation to extend the presumptive period for service connection for psychosis from 1 year to 2 years.*

## RESOLUTION No. 446

Whereas medical science has now determined, based upon sound medical principles, that the incubation period for valvular heart disease is in excess of the present presumption under Public Law 2, 73d Congress as amended, and

Whereas the presumptive period, in view of the above, is no longer in accordance with the major opinion based upon sound medical principles: Therefore be it

*Resolved, That the presumptive period for organic heart disease be advanced from the present year, subsequent to discharge, to 2 years.*

## RESOLUTION No. 273

Whereas many veterans whose added percentage comes to more than 100 percent, but whose combined percentage as outlined in the combined rating table for rating disabilities assigned percentage comes to 70 percent through 90 percent have disabilities which are of a static nature, and who will not be given future examinations by the Veterans' Administration, and

Whereas under the present rating system of the Veterans' Administration, rating percentages are combined rather than added, and

Whereas in many instances, veterans have more than 100 percent in added percentage but are not awarded 100 percent in combined percentage: Therefore be it

*Resolved, That any veteran who is in receipt of compensation in the percentage of 70 or more, and whose compensation for disability comes to more than 100 percent, and whose physical conditions is of a static nature, that he be awarded and assigned compensation in the amount of 100 percent.*

## RESOLUTION No. 94

Whereas a veteran losing 1 arm and 1 leg or loss of use of 1 arm and 1 leg receives 2 statutory awards, and

Whereas a veteran receiving the loss of 1 eye and 1 leg or 1 eye and 1 arm receives only 1 statutory award: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the National Convention of Disabled American Veterans assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That we go on record for Congress to provide a special statutory award for the anatomical loss or loss of 1 arm or 1 leg or 1 eye in combination.*



## RESOLUTION No. 135

Whereas the Veterans' Administration has recently caused to be put into effect amendments to the 1945 edition of the VA schedule for rating disabilities, known as extensions 8 (b) and 8 (c), and

Whereas these amendments have caused a severe reduction in the compensation rating of many veterans with loss of hearing where there has been no improvement, and

Whereas there is no way for the veteran to successfully rebut the reductions because the VA method of testing and evaluation of the hearing loss is not available to other doctors, and

Whereas veterans with hearing disabilities and wearing hearing aids have added difficulty in job placement and in many cases must work at submarginal jobs with consequent reduced earnings: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, go on record condemning extensions 8 (b) and 8 (c) of the 1945 edition of the VA schedule for rating disabilities as being unfair and discriminatory, and urge that same be rescinded in their entirety.

## RESOLUTION No. 335

Whereas the 1945 rating schedule, paragraph 19, specifies that age is not to be considered in granting permanent and total benefits under part I; and

Whereas many service-connected disabled veterans who have ratings ranging from 50 to 70 percent which are static, and because of age they are unable to carry on a gainful occupation, are denied total ratings of 100 percent: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957*, That we go on record asking the Director of the Veterans' Administration to liberalize the 1945 rating schedule in order that total ratings may be granted to those disabled veterans with service-connected disabilities, and who have ratings of 50 percent or more, because of age and unemployability.

## RESOLUTION No. 428

Whereas under present regulations generally, with the exception of new claims, the payment of additional compensation for dependents is made effective as of the date of receipt of proof of dependency by the Veterans' Administration; and

Whereas this causes an inadequacy of veterans benefits; and

Whereas a great many veterans either do not know that they would be entitled to the additional compensation for dependents or for unknown reasons have never submitted proof of dependency: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That a period of not less than 6 months be granted from date of notification by the Veterans' Administration that the veteran's compensation has been increased for the first time to 50 percent or more, and if the proof is received within the 6-months period that the additional compensation for dependents be made effective from the date of this compensation is increased to 50 percent or more.

## RESOLUTION No. 219

Whereas the Veterans' Administration has continuously undertaken reviews of compensation cases; and

Whereas in addition to periodic reevaluation by the Veterans' Administration of running compensation awards, service-connected veterans in receipt of disability compensation have been subject to frequent examinations; and

Whereas legislation has been introduced in the Congress which will prohibit the severance of a service-connected disability which has been in effect for 10 or more years: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, during its annual convention held in Buffalo, N. Y., on August 19-23, 1957, do urge that legislation be adopted comparable to H. R. 405 introduced in the 85th Congress by Representative Rogers of Massachusetts, whereby severance of a service-connected disability which has been in effect for 10 or more years shall be prohibited.

## RESOLUTION No. 66

Whereas it has been the policy of the Disabled American Veterans to have all disabled veterans treated equally and correct discriminatory legislation, and

Whereas under existing laws and regulations of the Veterans' Administration, pertaining to dependency allowance, a veteran rated from 10 to 40 percent received no additional allowance, and

Whereas veterans rated 50 to 100 percent receive additional allowance for dependents: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention of the Disabled American Veterans assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, hereby respectfully requests and urges Congress to amend Public Law 877, 80th Congress to provide that dependency allowance be included and also paid to veterans rated from 10 through 40 percent.

#### RESOLUTION No. 406

Whereas the cost of travel has increased throughout the United States, and Whereas the Veterans' Administration is still allowing 6 cents per mile: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the delegates assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., in the Disabled American Veterans annual convention, held August 19-23, 1957, request that travel allowance be increased from 6 to 9 cents per mile, and the delegates at this convention endorse this increase.

#### RESOLUTION No. 287

Whereas many men were called for service for World War II and the Korean conflict. These men were examined for induction purposes. Some passed the physical and some were rejected. There are many instances where a minor condition was found on the physical, however, the notation was that the condition was not disabling and the men were certified as adequate for duty. Other instances were that the men gave a history of medical treatment prior to service and nothing was found at the time of examination, consequently these men were certified as adequate for full duty. In other cases there will be no history, or the veteran had no knowledge of any condition existing prior to service, yet after being in service a disability will be found. These conditions will be listed as EPTE; and

Whereas these men served and as a result some of them were discharged with a disability. After these men were discharged they filed a claim with the Veterans' Administration. It was then up to the VA to determine whether the disability was a direct result of service or aggravated by service; and

Whereas it was the intent of Congress to recognize disabilities not found at the time of induction as well as disabilities found and listed as not disqualifying. Laws were passed to protect these types of cases—particularly Public Law 144, 78th Congress; and

Whereas cases were originally rated and service-connection granted. Now some 10 years later the VA Administrator has sent instructions to all offices ordering a review of cases. The objective, to correct so-called errors on original ratings. As a result, many veterans were and still are being stricken from the compensation rolls by classifying original and subsequent ratings as clear and unmistakable errors. The VA states that there has been no change in policy; they merely say they are correcting errors made by employees who didn't know what they were doing, or that the caseload was so heavy that ratings were made just to dispose of the case; and

Whereas after Public Law 144, 78th Congress, was passed, instructions were sent out on how to apply the law. The instructions at that time were to apply the law in a liberal manner and all doubt was to be resolved in favor of the veteran. At the present time the liberal angle is forgotten and the resolution of reasonable doubt is completely ignored. The VA is now severing service connection on the same laws that were in effect when the original rating was made. Yet they say that there has been no change in policy; and

Whereas according to VA regulations in effect at this time no "clear and unmistakable error" can be made except on a clear error of fact. The burden of proof is on the Government to show that a clear error exists. However, there have been very few decisions of a clear error made on other evidence than what was in that record on the original rating. In other words, the veteran has no protection under present laws and regulations; and

Whereas personnel of the Government and the VA changes down through the years, and naturally different minds and thoughts enter the picture. The majority of clear and unmistakable errors now are not clear and unmistakable as far as the laws are concerned, it is simply difference in opinion and policy. However, the veteran is the one to suffer: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Congress of the United States be prevailed upon to pass a new law that clearly shows the intent of Congress. Ninety days (3 months) should be sufficient time for a branch of the service to determine whether a man is fit or unfit for duty. If they cannot find a disabling condition in this time, they are at fault and should be held responsible. A new law should be passed stating that the Government be responsible for any condition that was found after the 90-day period. In this manner the veteran would be protected and would not have to suffer because of mistakes made by the particular branch of service or the changing policy of the VA.

## RESOLUTION No. 85

Whereas the Veterans' Administration no longer takes care of the service-connected dental treatment for veterans after they have treated them once, and unless applied for within 1 year from date of discharge; and

Whereas teeth which have once been damaged tend to continue to grow worse: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, go on record condemning this practice and recommending that the Veterans' Administration continue to treat the dental conditions of any disabled veteran who has service connection for his teeth as long as he may live.

## RESOLUTION No. 62

Whereas any change from present method of making compensation payments would cause a hardship on disabled veterans and their dependents: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, go on record to oppose the enactment of any legislation which would change the present method of making monthly payments of disability compensation.

## RESOLUTION No. 89

Whereas certain foreign nations, whose doctrines and principles of government are not compatible with the principles of freedom as guaranteed this Nation under its Bill of Rights, are making an allout effort to lead the world in the field of scientific and medical knowledge by the underwriting of the entire cost of the education of their qualified youth in these fields of higher education; and

Whereas there is at this time in these United States a critical shortage of educated and trained personnel in the fields of science and medical arts; and

Whereas this Nation is rapidly losing its position as a world leader in these fields; and

Whereas Public Law 634, 84th Congress, provides educational opportunities only to children whose education might otherwise be impeded or interrupted by the death of a parent caused by disease or injury incurred or aggravated in the Armed Forces during World War I, World War II, or the Korean conflict; and

Whereas the law now provides educational opportunities for the children of deceased veterans, this resolution proposes that educational opportunities be provided for the children of living disabled veterans: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans, assembled in convention at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957*, That we go on record as sponsoring action by the Federal Government to provide educational opportunities to children whose education might otherwise be impeded or interrupted by reason of being totally disabled and unable to be gainfully employed due to his service-connected organic condition, the result of wartime service during World War I, World War II, or the Korean conflict, and to aid such children in obtaining educational status which they might normally have obtained except for the disability of such a parent.

## RESOLUTION No. 27

Whereas veterans' service-connected disability ratings and death compensation has not kept pace with the increased cost of living since World War II; and

Whereas disabled veterans and dependents are finding it increasingly difficult to meet the meager essentials of living and in fact, some veterans and their dependents are destitute and must receive welfare aid wherever and if they are able to obtain it; and

Whereas it is an obligation and duty of the people of the Nation and Congress to give top priority to the wartime disabled veteran over any other class or group: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention of the Disabled American Veterans assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, go on record requesting that a 20-percent increase in disability compensation and death compensation be granted.

Now this is pensions.

#### RESOLUTION No. 72

Whereas the cost of living has increased considerably necessitating an increase in income limitations, and

Whereas it is the opinion that the income limitations set up by the Veterans' Administration for a single veteran which is \$1,400 and a married veteran, which is \$2,700, is too stringent in that these limitations create a hardship: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, request that our Senators and Representatives initiate legislation that would increase the income limitations from \$1,400 to \$1,800 for a single veteran, and from \$2,700 to \$3,300 for a married veteran.

#### RESOLUTION No. 419

Whereas questions of meeting percentage standards, when basic requirements are met and veteran is unemployable by reason of disabilities are now referred to central office under VA regulation 1142 and 1142 (a); and

Whereas the large majority of these cases are eventually approved in central office, and

Whereas much wasted time and effort in field stations and central office could be eliminated: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans in national convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, go on record as requesting the appropriate changes in regulations be made to give full authority to field stations in these cases; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all cases be subject to review by the adjudication officer in order that he may submit the cases to central office in event he does not concur.

#### RESOLUTION No. 38

Whereas commercial life insurance paid to a beneficiary upon the death of a veteran is considered as income for death purposes, and

Whereas this matured commercial life insurance is merely a return for premium payments made by the veteran during his lifetime; and

Whereas the proceeds of such matured commercial life insurance paid to widows creates a bar to entitlement to death pension benefits; and

Whereas, in most cases where matured commercial life insurance is paid to the widows of veterans, a great portion, or sometimes all of such proceeds from this commercial life insurance is used by the widow to defray funeral, hospital, and other expenses, generally accumulated during the veteran's terminal illness; now therefore, be it

*Resolved*, by the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That the Congress be memorialized to amend the Pension Act to provide that commercial life insurance, not to exceed the amount of \$10,000, paid to widows be not considered income for death pension purposes.

#### RESOLUTION No. 314

Whereas compensable service-connected disabled veterans are awarded disability compensation on the basis of the estimated loss of earning capacity, and by reason of their service-connected disabilities are handicapped in building up an estate to take care of the contingency of death, as presumably can be the case as to able-bodied veterans, and

Whereas the widows and children of war veterans who at the time of death had service-connected disabilities, do not under present law receive any higher rates of death compensation than is payable to the widows and children of other deceased World War I veterans, and

Whereas the widows and children of service-connected disabled veterans ought to receive more consideration from the Government than that extended to the widows and children of war veterans who have not been handicapped by any service-connected disability, and

Whereas only about 2 percent of the service-connected disabled veterans die by reason of their service-connected disabilities, and

Whereas many very seriously handicapped disabled veterans, including those rated as permanently and totally disabled whose disabilities may have shortened their life expectancy, may nevertheless die by reason of some intervening cause, and their widows and children receive no consideration under present laws as to such factors; therefore be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans, in annual convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957,* That we do hereby urge that the Congress of the United States enact legislation in effect providing that the widows and minor children of all deceased war veterans who at the time of death had compensable service-connected disabilities shall, without regard to any other income, receive death compensation at rates equivalent to 90 percent of the rates of death compensation paid to the widows and children of deceased war veterans who die by reason of their service-connected disabilities.

#### RESOLUTION No. 55

Whereas widows and dependents of World War I are entitled to pensions irrespective of whether the cause of death is due to military service or the veteran had a disability due to service at time of death; and

Whereas widows and dependents of World War II veterans and of the Korean conflict in order to be entitled to a pension in cases where cause of death or any disability that contributed to the cause of death is not due to service, the veteran has to have a service-connected disability, disabling to an ascertainable degree at time of death; and

Whereas it is inequitable for widows and dependents of World War I veterans to be entitled to pensions and the widows and dependents of World War II and Korean conflict veterans being denied benefits under the same circumstances or having the same qualifications: Therefore be it

*Resolved,* That suitable legislation be passed granting the same pension rights to widows and dependents of World War II and Korean veterans as now is granted to widows of World War I veterans.

#### RESOLUTION No. 103

Whereas under existing laws and regulations presently in effect, persons eligible for non-service-connected death pension payments cannot receive pension payments if their annual income exceeds a certain limitation, and

Whereas it is unreasonable to continue to apply the above-mentioned annual income limitation for death benefits because of the increase in present-day cost of living: Therefore be it

*Resolved,* That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, seek amendment to present veterans regulations to increase income limitation of World War I, II, and Korean conflict widows from \$1,400 to \$2,000 annually for widows without children (dependent), and from \$2,700 to \$3,500 for widows with minor children, and eliminate benefits from commercial life insurance as chargeable income.

#### RESOLUTION No. 114

*Be it resolved By the Delegates of the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957,* That there be legislation to provide death compensation or pension to a woman who was married to a veteran on or before December 14, 1955, or at any time if child is born of union and for purposes of gratuitous death benefits ceremonial marriage be deemed valid if entered into without knowledge of impediment and person cohabited with veteran for five or more years immediately before his death, provided no claim is filed by legal widow, and be it further

*Resolved,* That there be supporting legislation to redefine widow for VA compensation and pension purposes to permit recognition of a woman who at time of veteran's death had lived with him in marriage for five or more years, or at any time if a child was born to the union.

## RESOLUTION No. 416

Whereas many veterans with small service-connected disabilities are now retiring and are entitled to social security and in many cases are entitled to a small pension from their employers, and

Whereas many of these veterans are members of the Disabled American Veterans and have for years intended to apply for a pension for total disability, non-service-connected, when they retired, and

Whereas most of these veterans without dependents are not entitled to a pension for total disability, non-service-connected because of the \$1,400 income restriction; and

Whereas the same is true with most widows of the veterans above referred to, and

Whereas social security benefits are not considered as income for income-tax purposes: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That social security benefits not be considered income for a veteran who has a service-connected disability and requests a pension for total disability, non-service connected; and be it further

*Resolved*, That social security benefits not be considered income for the widow of a veteran who had a service-connected disability at time of death.

## RESOLUTION No. 8

Whereas insecurity in the form of reduced disability compensation ratings by the Veterans' Administration Rating Boards is a constant threat to the income of our wartime disabled: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans assembled in convention at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, request and urge the passage of legislation, providing that all ratings of compensation having been in effect for a continuous period of 10 years or more shall not be severed after death of veteran if same would have entitled the widow to compensation or pension or payments, except for fraud.

## RESOLUTION No. 424

Whereas widows and dependent parents who once elected to receive benefits under Public Law 881, 84th Congress, are barred from reelecting compensation, and

Whereas said law is unfair in that it is a complete change from the old established procedure previously in effect and followed by the Veterans' Administration: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, sponsor amendment of Public Law 881, 84th Congress, to permit such widows and dependent parents to have the right to reelect to receive compensation, or whichever gives greater benefits.

## RESOLUTION No. 61

Whereas the present amount of \$150 which the United States Government pays toward the burial of a veteran is inadequate due to rising costs of burial: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, urge the enactment of legislation to provide an increase in burial allowance for veterans from the present \$150 to \$250.

## RESOLUTION No. 73

Whereas Senate bill 3067 has been introduced, read twice, and referred to the Committee on Finance: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, urge our Senators of the 86th Congress to support Senate bill 3067.

## RESOLUTION No. 41

Whereas section 620 of Public Law No. 23, 82d Congress, allows insurance within 1 year from date of Veterans' Administration rating, but many veterans with mental difficulties are not able to take action during the required period, and the families of the veterans are not familiar with the regulations of the Veterans' Administration: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans, in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19 to 23, 1957, That the Congress be urged to enact legislation which would waive the 1 year time limit.*

RESOLUTION No. 35

Whereas statutory authority has heretofore existed under which application for waiver of insurance premium on insurance form No. 357 could be made retroactively for a period of 5 years, and

Whereas on August 1, 1947, the present law restricts the granting of waiver of insurance premiums to a period of not to exceed 1 year retroactive from the time the application is filed, and

Whereas insurance is a hard subject of most people generally to understand, and in particular, former members of the Armed Forces who were sold national service life insurance and they were not given a copy of the law, nor a copy of the policy, or certificate, in the most instances, and they were totally unfamiliar with their right to file application for waiver of premium, and many of these same people receive sickness and disabilities which properly entitle them to waiver of premiums, and they are still uninformed, and further time is needed in which to apprise them of their rights and to award them of these benefits, and

Whereas the United States Veterans' Administration has had great difficulty in coping with the handling of the large number of insurance claims, and the entire insurance program has been considerably deficient and misunderstood by the average citizen, and

Whereas it is believed that a former service person, or his beneficiary, should have the right to assert a claim at any time based upon its merits and the facts in the case, regardless of the passage of time: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled, at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19 to 23, 1957, That we hereby go on record asking the Congress to pass amendatory legislation granting the right to claimants and beneficiaries to make claims for waiver of insurance premiums dating back into the period of their World War II service, and any claim arising on the facts since that time*

RESOLUTION No. 36

Whereas Public Law 242, 68th Congress, as amended, grants United States Government life insurance benefits, including waiver of premiums and total disability payments to veterans of World War I without age restrictions, and

Whereas Public Law 801, 76th Congress, as amended, grants national service life insurance benefits to veterans of World War II, including waiver of premium during continuous total disability, existing 6 months prior to the attainment of age 60 years, and

Whereas national service life insurance is the only insurance protection carried by a majority of World War II veterans and they are dependent on this insurance as a protection for their families, and

Whereas failure to grant waiver of premiums after age 60 will cause the loss of insurance and all insurance protection for their families, and

Whereas failure to grant waiver of premiums after age 60 will cause the loss of insurance and all insurance protection to many families of World War II veterans at a time in life where they are unable to reinsure or continue to labor: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled direct the national legislative director of the DAV to present legislation to the Congress amending section 602 (n) of Public Law 801, 76th Congress, as amended, deleting the words "Prior to the attainment of age sixty (60) years."*

RESOLUTION No. 412

Whereas under existing National Service Life Insurance Act of 1940, as amended, and World War Veterans Act of 1924, as amended, and the regulations of the Veterans' Administration set forth that any policy for insurance issued, reinstated, or converted shall be incontestable from the date of issue, reinstatement, or conversion, except for fraud, nonpayment of premiums, or on grounds that the applicant was not a member of the military or naval forces of the United States, and

Whereas when the insured subsequently files a claim for disability benefits or when the beneficiary of the deceased insured files a claim for payment of the

insurance, the Veterans' Administration, regardless of the number of years which the policy has been in force, reviews the original application for insurance to determine if fraud exists, and

Whereas we believe the Veterans' Administration does not always exercise good reasoning or judgment in determining the existence of fraud: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans at their national convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19 to 23 1957, That the National Service Life Insurance Act of 1940, as amended, and the regulations of the Veterans' Administration be further amended to make all policies of national service life insurance and United States Government life insurance incontestable on the grounds of fraud if the policy has been in force for 2 years.*

#### RESOLUTION No. 413

Whereas section 304 World War Veterans Act of 1924, as amended July 2, 1926, gave World War I veterans the right to reinstate their lapsed war risk insurance providing full payment of back premiums were paid and further providing in cases of nonpayment of premiums, a lien to be placed for the full amount against the policy with 5 percent interest compounded annually, and

Whereas this promotes undue hardships against many veterans, and

Whereas World War II disabled veterans, in reinstating their national service life insurance, were only required to pay 2 premiums, 1 for the month of lapse and 1 for the current month and at no interest: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans assembled in its national convention in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19 to 23, 1957, That we do hereby adopt this resolution.*

#### RESOLUTION No. 125

Whereas the insurance benefits for the State of Iowa are now being handled by the district office in Philadelphia, Pa., and

Whereas the processing of claims are now taking all the way from 3 to 6 months before any reply is being received on claims, and

Whereas it is thought that better service could be rendered to the veterans in the State of Iowa on insurance benefits, if they are handled by the regional office, Des Moines, Iowa, and veterans would then have a chance to have a personal contact: Therefore be it

*Resolved, We, the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, hereby go on record requesting legislation that the insurance be decentralized from the district offices to the VA regional offices in the United States.*

#### RESOLUTION No. 7

Whereas there is a considerable number of American veterans residing in foreign countries, and who are receiving a pension for a nonservice disability, many of whom have relinquished their American citizenship; and

Whereas we think that veterans from the United States, although they are residing in foreign countries, should be grateful enough to this country for these benefits to retain their American citizenship: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans assembled in convention in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, request and urge the passage of legislation providing that in all cases where American citizens have voluntarily relinquished their American citizenship, no veterans' benefits shall be paid to them.*

#### RESOLUTION No. 176

Whereas there is evidence in reports of various agencies in the past few years that there are those who would prefer that the functions of the Veterans' Administration be distributed to other governmental agencies; and

Whereas we are unalterably opposed to such action, knowing full well that the ineffectiveness and unsatisfactory administration that such action would bring about was precisely the reason for the establishment of the Veterans' Administration as a single agency to administer veterans' affairs; and

Whereas we feel that the Veterans' Administration is to be commended on the manner in which they are endeavoring to administer veterans' benefits: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That we continue to urge that the Veterans' Administration, as a single agency for the administering of veterans' affairs, be continued without any transfer of its functions to any other governmental agency.*



## RESOLUTION No. 24

Whereas the progress of veterans' legislation shall be expedited in the Congress of the United States by the establishment of a permanent standing Committee on Veterans' Affairs in the Senate of the United States; and

Whereas several Senate resolutions were introduced in the 84th Congress of the United States for the creation of a Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans at their convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, through their national director of legislation urge the United States Senate to support the creation and establishment of a separate, permanent standing committee in the said United States Senate for the consideration of all legislation dealing with veterans' affairs.

## RESOLUTION No. 144

Whereas Congress, the representatives of the people, intended veterans' laws to be interpreted in the veterans' favor whenever possible and, in fact, through the years benefits for veterans have been interpreted in the veterans' favor, it is now the practice of the Veterans' Administration and its Board of Veterans' Appeals and the Administrator to adhere strictly to the letter of the existing rules and regulations rather than base the decisions upon the merits or the justice of the case: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, By the Disabled Americans Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, that a court of justice, composed of impartial civilians not affiliated with the Veterans' Administration, the military or General Accounting Office, be established; this body to have the final jurisdiction in the many cases which have been denied by the currently existing VA Rating Board of Veterans' Appeals, this court of justice to decide the cases before them on the basis of equity.

## RESOLUTION No. 384

Requesting legislation by Congress authorizing and directing a scientific research to determine whether or not mustard-gas burns and other types of war gases used in World War I provides any causative factor or etiology for delayed blindness and/or carcinoma of the throat and lungs, and providing for a report thereon to be made within 1 year, and further providing for a special appropriation to defray the expenses of such scientific investigations.

Whereas at the 1956 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, Resolution No. 347 was adopted bearing this same title, and the basic premises for that resolution are here readopted; and

Whereas, no favorable action has been secured on the said Resolution No. 347, but since that time there has come to light the fact that there has previously been conducted in Great Britain a scientific investigation based upon statistics only, and that the same type of investigation is now in progress in the United States through the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C.; and

Whereas a full report of the British investigation is published in the British Journal Preventive and Social Medicine (1955) 9-62-72, under the title, "Mustard Gas Poisoning, Chronic Bronchitis, and Lung Cancer," and further labeled as, "An Investigation Into the Possibility That Poisoning By Mustard Gas In the 1914-18 War Might Be a Factor in the Production of Neoplasia," by R. A. M. Case of the Institute of Cancer Research, the Royal Cancer Hospital, London, and A. J. Lea, of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance; and

Whereas the British investigation report commences with the statement, "Mustard gas and its analogs, the nitrogen mustards, are known to be carcinogenic to experimental animals" (Boyland and Horning, 1949, Heston, 1953 a, b), and it is reported that out of 160,970 cases treated for war gas poisoning, that 80 percent of these are due to mustard gas, and the British investigation was conducted on a restudy of 1,267 men who were receiving a pension for the effects of mustard gas from January 1, 1930, until December 31, 1952, and a comparative statistical study was made using that group, with a second group of bronchitis cases that had not been exposed to mustard gas, and a further group of cases where amputation was involved, and in which group neither mustard gas or bronchitis was of record in service but which group might be expected to normally develop bronchitis on the basis of civilian population; and whereas a part of the British report states:

"As will be shown later, the men in the mustard gas series experienced an excessive mortality from bronchitis, and the case histories were examined to see why a pension was being issued in 1930. This investigation revealed that, although the label in each case was "mustard gas poisoning" or some similar phrase, the reason for granting the pension was not that the man had been gassed but that in 1930 there were sufficient clinical findings present to warrant the view that permanent damage had been sustained. In 81 percent of the cases the pension was given because of bronchitis, bronchiectasis, emphysema, or fibrosis of the lung, and in most of the remaining 19 percent there was clear evidence of bronchitis. Evidently we were studying not simply a population which had at some time been poisoned by mustard gas, but a population poisoned by mustard gas and extensively affected by chronic bronchitis, either as a result of gassing or for other reasons"; and whereas in the discussion of their findings the British report states:

#### DISCUSSION

"The foregoing results show that both the men who had been poisoned with mustard gas (and who nearly all suffered from bronchitis) and the men who suffered from bronchitis but were not poisoned with mustard gas, showed a very high general mortality. In the mustard-gas series the excessive mortality could be completely accounted for by an excessive number of deaths from bronchitis and, to a lesser extent, by an excessive number of deaths from cancer of the lung and pleura. The reason for the excessive general mortality was not sought for in the bronchitis series, but an excessive number of deaths from cancer of the lung and pleura was found.

"In both cases the deaths from cancer of the lung and pleura occurred at twice the rate for the general population. Deaths from other forms of neoplasia occurred at the same rate as in the general population.

"The amputation series showed no deviation from the rates for the general population in any of the criteria studied, and so confirm that the standards derived from the general population can be used on these series of men who were by definition serving soldiers in the 1914-18 war.

"The finding of a high incidence of cancer of the lung and pleura in both the mustard-gas series and the bronchitis series does not support the view that mustard gas has acted as a direct carcinogen, but it does provide evidence that chronic bronchitis can be associated with an increased number of deaths attributed to carcinoma of the lung and pleura. This view has been advanced in the past, and some evidence for it published, especially with reference to bronchitis and the squamous-celled type of carcinoma of the bronchus (Lea, 1952).

"Unfortunately, the Ministry of Pensions records do not contain histological findings, but it is proposed to attempt to obtain the pathological material from the hospitals concerned and to review the histopathology of the series"; and

Whereas it will be noted that the British investigation was on a comparative statistical basis but that they state they propose to attempt to obtain the pathological material from the hospitals concerned and to review this study further in order to definitely determine whether or not the high incidence of cancer of the lungs as shown on a statistical study can be established from a pathological standpoint, and

Whereas in a letter released March 18, 1957, by Dr. Gilbert W. Beebe, statistician, National Research Council, as referred to above, it is stated as follows:

"We are conducting a scientific investigation of the hypothesis that mustard-gas inhalation may produce cancer of the lung, and are approaching the problem via a controlled, statistical study of mortality from lung cancer. We have defined three groups of men of comparable age and race, on the basis of service in the AEF in World War I: men with mustard-gas inhalation, men with minor wounds of the extremities and without mustard-gas injury, and men with pneumonia but also without mustard-gas injury. These groups total about 7,500 men, including deaths subsequent to January 1, 1919. About a third of them are now dead, and we are gathering the facts on each death preparatory to a statistical comparison on the three groups. Our evidence as to the effect of mustard gas will then consist of any statistically significant excess of cancer deaths in the mustard gas group relative to the comparison groups. We have, by this method, no approach to the problem of determining the etiology of cancer in the particular case"; and

Whereas it will be seen that the scope of the investigation by the National Research Council of the United States follows pretty much the pattern of the British investigation, and the United States study has not been completed and the report has not yet been printed, and the investigation in the final analysis

will not determine the etiology of cancer as it relates to mustard-gas injury, but it is believed that the high incidence of lung cancer found in the mustard-gas cases and in the bronchitis cases studied by the British, and the fact that our own National Research Council has undertaken a similar study, together with the fact that our DAV national service officers have witnessed through their experience a high incidence of death by lung and throat cancer in mustard-gas cases, does furnish a good and sufficient basis to justify the United States Government undertaking a complete and all-out scientific investigation, and especially in view of the further fact, that mustard gas has been proven carcinogenic to experimental animals, and we believe that the veteran suffering from residuals of mustard-gas poisoning, and their dependents, are entitled to have the very best scientific investigation completed in order that full justice may be rendered in their cases in the granting of service connection, and that this does justify further and separate scientific investigations to be authorized by the Congress of the United States: therefore be it

*Resolved by the national convention of the Disabled American Veterans, meeting in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957,* That we hereby go on record requesting the Congress of the United States to enact legislation authorizing and directing a scientific research to be made by the most suitable medical authorities, including the National Research Council, of the National Academy of Sciences, the Medical Department of the Army, and providing for the cooperation of the United States Veterans' Administration for medical histories of mustard-gas cases and medical information from autopsy reports, and that the complete subject be explored, and that the findings recorded and the final report rendered as to whether or not there is a chain of causation existing between mustard-gas burns and other gas injuries, and the residual effects thereof including the destruction of tissue cells that may have resulted in delayed malignant cancer, and that this report be made available within a period of 1 year from the date of the passage of the legislation or as soon thereafter as possible; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Congress make a special appropriation of \$500,000 to initiate the scientific research provided for in the foregoing resolution, subject to any supplemental appropriations that may be required to finish the job.

#### RESOLUTION No. 387

Whereas a number of printed resolutions were adopted at the 1956 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, and which are published in the printed proceedings of that convention, and

Whereas it is our belief that these resolutions previously adopted that have not yet been enacted into legislation should be continued and readopted at this convention as part of the national legislative program of the Disabled American Veterans: Therefore be it

*Resolved,* That we hereby go on record in this National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans meeting in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, to continue and readopt each and all of the resolutions passed in the 1956 national convention as part of the national legislative program of the Disabled American Veterans, and that we continue to work for the passage of legislation to carry out those mandates.

Comrade SOUTHARD (continuing). Now, comrades, this concludes the resolutions in part 1 of the report. And as chairman of the committee, I move the adoption of those resolutions as read.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, Corbly, Cincinnati Chapter, No. 1, seconds the motion.

Second Junior Vice Commander WENTWORTH (now presiding). You have heard the question. All those in favor signify by saying "Aye."

Contrary?

The ayes have it and so ordered.

(When put to a vote, the motion was carried.)

Comrade SOUTHARD. Now, part 2 of the report concerns a matter of attempting a definite policy that would protect the benefits that we now receive. At this convention this committee was handed more

than 40 resolutions and those resolutions came from all parts of the country, and represented nearly every State or department of the DAV.

These resolutions definitely demonstrated, set out the concern all over the country as to what is happening to veterans' benefits today, of the number of veterans that are being removed from the rolls and having their benefits reduced, on the theory that there has been an error or mistake.

At a recent convention of a department out in Toledo, Ohio, the convention adopted a resolution and this resolution contains rather strong language. It certainly would be unfair that if we attempted to adopt such a resolution without all of the delegates understanding what is in that resolution.

Following that convention I do know this, that the resolution was reviewed by the higher officials, including the Administrator of the Veterans' Affairs and many others in high office, and we know that the Veterans' Administration did not and does not approve of this resolution. So they prepared a report in writing setting forth their objections and calling attention to errors and mistakes in that resolution. I learned that many people in the DAV don't think much of the resolution. Some say it doesn't contain facts, some say that the statements in there cannot be supported, some say they don't like the language. But we do know this, delegates, that so far we are sure that upward of 40,000 veterans have lost their compensation or are severely reduced because they said mistakes were made. We do know this, delegates, for sure, that the Veterans' Administration has released a proposal that will slice the rates of compensation in your rating schedule rather drastically and they haven't selected any particular group. They have included the gunshot-wound cases, which you know have a pretty high priority on this proposal. And it goes across the board. There are some people now rated 100 percent on service disabilities that if this proposal goes into effect will find that it is only 60 percent.

Not long ago they used to pay 100 percent for total deafness with complete loss of bone conduction. They don't do that anymore. That is out, that is in effect. But the other items are proposals.

Now, your national commander is very much concerned. He wants to be fair and honest and I think that every delegate here feels the same way. I certainly do, but I am a delegate and I have accepted the responsibility to do everything we can for the protection of the disabled and his dependents. In view of the controversy the denials and so forth, at this convention our national commander showing that he wants to be fair and honest, requested that the officials of the Veterans' Administration appear before your convention rehabilitation committee and they did appear before that committee and I think the session lasted about 2½ hours, and they presented, item by item, the rebuttal to this resolution, and not one was rebutted. The true facts are here and I want to bring out the reason I am mentioning this. I wouldn't want to see any delegate vote on this resolution if he thought it was wrong. If he thought there was a misstatement in it, I wouldn't want him to vote either way. I want him to be sure. So it is my thought, as chairman of this committee, that I should read this resolution and if any delegate cares to challenge the validity or the truth-

fulness of any figure or any statement in that resolution I wish he would raise his hand and we will present the official Government documents to substantiate same.

So with your premission I will read this resolution, No. 275.

RESOLUTION No. 275

Whereas the Disabled American Veterans charges the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs at Washington with failure to follow legislation approved by the Congress of the United States in connection with the payment of compensation to veterans disabled as a direct result of war service, the Administrator admitting he has already terminated or decreased the benefits of more than 40,000 of these veterans, claiming that the original grant was in "error," and

Whereas this is the result of a continuing review of compensation claims of the war disabled originally granted under the provisions of Public Law 144, approved by the Congress of the United States, and

Whereas if a field office of the Veterans' Administration fails to remove or reduce the compensation of a sufficient number of wartime disabled veterans through "error," the efficiency rating of that office is considered unsatisfactory and that office is ordered to conduct a second review, and

Whereas less than 40 percent of these cases of wartime disabled veterans have been checked to date and at the current rate those removed from the rolls will exceed 100,000, and

Whereas printed instruction, explaining this policy change of the Veterans' Administration have not been issued, this new policy being distinguished by the use of the term, "medical principles," and

Whereas survey teams are sent from the Washington office of the Veterans' Administration to the many field offices to impart verbal instructions; individual claims files are called to Washington and the adverse decision rendered there affects the benefits of many other wartime disabled veterans, and

Whereas the Washington office of the Veterans' Administration has called all regional office adjudication officers to Washington for a period of instruction, and have admitted that the review of claims of wartime disabled veterans is in compliance with Recommendation No. 69 of the report of the Bradley Commission, and

Whereas the rating boards at the regional offices of the Veterans' Administration are now hesitant to approve the claim of any veteran on war-incurred disabilities, the new theory of "medical principles" providing a tool for arbitrary denial, and

Whereas if the Veterans' Administration was sincere in its program of correcting alleged "errors," it would also review the claims of wartime disabled veterans previously denied, and

Whereas the Veterans' Administration at Washington proposes a complete revision of the rating table to evaluate disability, 132 pages of material having already been issued with recommended changes, and

Whereas the drastic reductions being proposed are shocking and would materially reduce or discontinue payment of benefits to the war combat veterans, and

Whereas the ratings for muscle damage from gunshot wounds and other causes are to be slashed, along with most other disabilities—and to qualify for total disability the service-connected condition must be so serious that the veteran be "housebound," with similar reductions and eliminations of compensation across the board, and

Whereas the considered changes are said to be based on "medical advances" but actually are the result of pressure from medical associations, the Bureau of the Budget, and the report of the Bradley Commission, with military pressure, and

Whereas if the present recommendations are carried to a conclusion, the number of wartime disabled veterans receiving benefits will be reduced to a mere token, and the beginning of the end of this Nation of ours meeting its obligation to the war's wounded and disabled among the enlisted personnel, and

Whereas no effort has been launched to interfere with the high rate of retirement to the disabled career officers, it appearing that the laws enacted by the Congress of the United States no longer apply to the Veterans' Administration: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans at its 36th annual national convention, charge the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs with violating his oath

of office in scrapping Public Law 144 of the Congress of the United States and replacing the law with recommendations of the Bureau of the Budget, medical groups, and military pressure in the conduct of reviewing claims of wartime disabled veterans; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we charge the Administrator with a violation of the moral code of decency in his proposal to destroy the present rating schedule and to replace it with evaluations that are grossly inhumane; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans appeal to the Members of Congress to cause an investigation to determine the Administrator's fitness for office; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we request the Members of Congress to enact legislation that will "freeze" the present or 1945 rating schedule and prohibit any change in the evaluation of disabilities of wartime disabled veterans, without the approval of the Congress.

Comrade SOUTHARD (continuing). Delegates, before making a motion I would like to know if any delegate wishes to challenge the authenticity of any statement in that resolution.

Assuming that we are not voting on somebody's imagination, as chairman of the rehabilitation committee, I wish to state that the committee unanimously recommends this resolution to your convention.

Comrade F. T. RIGGS (California, chapter No. 32). Second the motion.

Comrade SOUTHARD. I didn't make a motion.

Comrade BERNARD R. JORDAN (Tennessee, chapter No. 2). I am not making a motion, I am just questioning one point in that resolution. You made the statement that the Bureau of the Budget, American Medical Association, and others was forcing the Administrator to do this. As an employee, an appointed officer, I don't feel that removing or condemning the Administrator is going to help our cause and, therefore, I feel that that clause recommending the removal of the Administrator be taken out, that the rest of it will go through.

Comrade SOUTHARD. The clause does not recommend the removal of the Administrator. I will read that again. I don't want any part of this if it is not O. K.

"Be it further resolved, that the DAV appeal to the Members of Congress to cause an investigation to determine the Administrator's fitness for office."

There is no charge that he be relieved.

Comrade I. I. KURHAN (Washington, D. C., chapter No. 5). With reference to the statement made here that the reason for the reductions are based on medical advances, I would like to ask a point of information, whether or not anything can be done to prove the advancement because the claimant if he arranges for outside medical authority—in other words this seems to be given an arbitrary judgment by the Veterans' Administration and doctors of the Veterans' Administration are judging whether or not there are medical advances. That is my point of information.

National Adjutant CORBLY. We don't understand the point.

Comrade KURHAN. Why we would allow the Medical Administration of the VA to be arbitrary in their judgment. Whereas we can get that opinion from outside expert authority, medical authority.

Comrade SOUTHARD. He wants to know where the Administrator got his permission to do that.

Comrade, now was your question raised to determine who instructs the Administrator to make these changes?

Comrade KURHAN. Not only who instructs him but why they allow him to make these.

Comrade SOUTHARD. That is a good question. The comrade raises the question, now I am quoting from the letter signed by Mr. Percival Brundage, Director of the Budget, and the letter is addressed to the Honorable Harry F. Byrd as chairman of the Finance Committee in the Senate. And the date of the letter is June 27, 1957. Among other things in the letter, it states:

The President directed that the agencies concerned make a most thorough and searching study of its recommendations, and indicated his intention of submitting a message to this session of Congress outlining his recommendations—

but, he went on, in view of the pressure of business he couldn't do it.

Now in the same letter, he says:

In 1955 the Veterans' Administration began a revision of the Schedule for Rating Disabilities to assure that it would reflect the current level of medical, economic, and other scientific knowledge. This revision, based on the existing statutory standard of average impairment of earning capacity, is now proceeding with the President's approval.

Does that answer your question?

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, I'd like to ask a question of the chairman. And in asking the question, express a view. The purpose of this resolution, as I understand it, is a sincere, studied effort on the part of the committee, with the advice of many service officers and many members of this convention, to correct the circumstances that you have found in the Veterans' Administration. That is correct, isn't it?

Comrade SOUTHARD. Yes.

National Adjutant CORBLY. It seems to me if that is the objective of the resolution that we might be weakening the position that we stand for here at this convention by the inference that we do not believe the Administrator qualified. Now maybe he is not. I am not debating that question. But it seems to me when you have resolved your question there, that it would be much more appropriate to the situation to ask Congress to determine the validity of your charges and provide for the necessary methods of correcting these inequities if our charges are found proved, than it would to determine the efficiency of one man. I think it would be accepted a whole lot better. If, then, they found our charges were true and they saw that it is advisable to change Administrators to correct the thing they would have some power in doing it. But if they are merely to determine the fitness of the Administrator there is no assurance given us that his successor would be a bit better than the present man.

Do you see my point?

Comrade SOUTHARD. I see your point, Mr. Corbly. You know I haven't made a motion yet.

Comrade KENNETH ROBEY (Dayton, Ohio, Chapter No. 9). I can understand what our fine national adjutant is saying. However, as the submitter of the resolution to this convention, it is my belief that if this resolution is passed, if we have any power in the national organization that this will bring it to the attention of a congressional committee and it will be investigated. Not just Mr. Higley but the Veterans' Administration in general. This is not meant as a resolution particularly for Mr. Higley. This is trying to cure all the ills and evils that have been found in the present Veterans' Administration setup.

Right now the policies that are being set in the Veterans' Administration have completely ignored the laws on compensation or ratings and if it continues, the policies that are being set today, we will have to live with, particularly we younger veterans, for 25 years. Now, is the time to try to do something about it. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I am making a motion to this convention that we go on record as adopting this resolution in its entirety.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON (Buddies Chapter, Texas, No. 11). P. D. Jackson, Buddies Chapter No. 11, Dallas, Tex., takes great pleasure in seconding this motion and state to other delegates that we received a copy of that other resolution and it was adopted verbatim by Buddies Chapter and we have about 600 copies and I can get them down here if anyone of the delegates wants them.

Comrade JESSE CARL HALL (Alabama, Chapter No. 1). Hall of Chapter No. 1, Tuscaloosa, Ala., wishes to state as a member of that committee, we sat there and weighed that very carefully. Every statement, one by one, was taken up and what alarmed us more than anything else, every statement over Veterans' Administrative signature was told to us to be incorrect. They were not correct, but the Veterans' Administration acknowledged the fact that there was their statement and their signature. So it was our opinion that the information that was available to the Disabled American Veterans was correct and now that they have been challenged on that statement, claim that they were incorrect. If our legal documents submitted for public scrutiny are incorrect when someone is challenged, what is the use of having public documents? And we submitted this resolution on public documents available to us. And as a member of that committee I wholeheartedly urge you to support this resolution 100 percent.

Comrade ALBERT DANIELS (Ohio, Chapter No. 25). Mr. Commander, and delegates of the convention. It is my honest and sincere opinion that this is no time for quibbling so far as the interests of the wars' disabled are concerned. It is time that we make a stand with reference to these men and women who are unable to be here today, to forget ourselves.

I sat in on the hearing of the rehabilitation committee with four of the representatives of the Veterans' Administration present including the Chairman of the Review Board. Please believe me, the statement by Comrade Southard that they were unable to refute 1 claim, 1 paragraph if you please in that resolution, is as true a statement as was ever made. The truth about it is, delegates, several of them were proven over the signature of Mr. Stone who, I understand, is a Deputy Administrator of the Veterans' Administration. And the truth about it is there were things contained in that resolution that are unmistakable. This resolution didn't come out of any radicalism. It came out of thorough investigation, men and women, of several offices of the Veterans' Administration, and 40,000 already stricken from the payroll. It is more than that. We have good reason to believe it is 45,000 and it is going up to a 100,000 and probably more if somebody doesn't take a definite stand in behalf of these men and women who are disabled by reason of war service. Since the adoption of this resolution at Toledo, Ohio, I have information here from very reliable sources that at least one of the major veteran organizations following us in national convention is going to adopt this same



resolution. Here is a letter from the immediate past department commander of the American Legion of Illinois: "The Cooke County Council at Chicago representing 65,000 Legion members has adopted this resolution in toto."

I don't want to take any more of your time but I say this to you, in conclusion. You adopt this resolution, you adopt it and for the wars' disabled 2 or 3 million of them all over America, the DAV will stand out like the morning sun as their protector. [Applause.]

Comrade FRANK GARRETT (Cincinnati, Ohio, Chapter No. 1). Garrett, Cincinnati No. 1, calls for the question.

Comrade R. DALE WORK (past commander of Department of Indiana). I would like to say I attended the Ohio State convention. I heard this resolution read on their floor. I felt so strongly about it I took it back to the Department of Indiana. I mailed it out to my entire executive committee and they approved it unanimously. We strongly urge you to adopt this thing, get behind it and go.

Second Junior Vice Commander WENTWORTH. All in favor, signify by saying "aye."

Contrary?

The "ayes" have it by unanimous vote. [Applause.]

Comrade SOUTHARD. Comrades, that concludes the report of your convention rehabilitation committee. And before I request a release of that committee I want to again express my appreciation and I think I represent every delegate in this hall, that your national commander was fair enough and democratic enough to permit a discussion and a meeting of the minds and a debate all the way through before this resolution was either rejected or put on the floor. Now I don't know of any fairer thing that has ever occurred and I just want to assure the commander of our understanding and appreciation.

And at this time I would like to request that the committee be released:

National Adjutant CORBLY. I move that the committee be discharged with a vote of thanks, Corbly, Cincinnati, No. 1.

Assistant National Adjutant FEIGNER. Second the motion.

Comrade JAMES CLINGNER (Ohio, Chapter No. 1). I would like to ask what happened to Resolution No. 411.

Second Junior Vice Commander WENTWORTH. There is a motion on the floor. Are you ready for the question?

All in favor, signify by saying "aye."

Opposed, "no."

The motion is carried.

Comrade JAMES CLINGNER (Ohio, Chapter No. 1). I would like to ask what happened to Resolution No. 411, Cincinnati's resolution.

National Adjutant CORBLY. After a committee is discharged, any proponent of a resolution may ask what disposal was made of it. That is why Jimmie Clingner asked for the floor but he was not in order until the committee was discharged.

Comrade SOUTHARD. No. 411, this was a proposed resolution, the resolution was rejected. The committee did not see fit to recommend this resolution to the convention.

Comrade CLINGNER. Is it in order for one of the makers of the resolution to talk to you about that?

Comrade SOUTHARD. The committee has been discharged.

National Adjutant CORBLY. As a point of information to the convention, under your rules when the committee has been discharged, and this committee has been discharged, the proponent of any resolution rejected by the committee is privileged to ask that that resolution be read and that the convention give it consideration.

Comrade CLINGNER. I respectfully ask that Resolution No. 411 be read.

Comrade SOUTHARD (reading) :

RESOLUTION No. 411

Whereas the rehabilitation of our disabled comrades is the first concern of the Disabled American Veterans, and

Whereas it is the express purpose of the national rehabilitation commission of the Disabled American Veterans that resolutions be adopted recommending and directing that all types of healing service be made available for disabled veterans, and

Whereas there is proof of a demand for chiropractic service by veterans outside of Veterans' Administration hospitals; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans sponsor and vigorously support specific legislation to the end that, whenever any person is entitled by law or regulation to receive medical care by or through the Veterans' Administration, he shall, if he so elects, have the right to receive chiropractic care and the Veterans' Administration shall make available the services of qualified chiropractors on an out-patient basis.

Second Junior Vice Commander WENTWORTH. What is your desire?

Comrade KENNETH KEHRT (Cincinnati, Ohio, Chapter No. 1). I wish to speak on that resolution.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Has to be a motion first.

Comrade KEHRT. I move that we accept this resolution in its entirety.

National Adjutant CORBLY. The motion would be to adopt the resolution in its entirety.

Comrade KEHRT. I restate my motion that we adopt this resolution.

Comrade EDW. GAFFORD (Kentucky). Second.

Junior Vice Commander WENTWORTH. You have heard the motion. Is there any discussion?

All those in favor, signify by saying "aye."

Contrary, "no."

The motion is lost.

Comrade GEORGE WILDRIDGE (Buffalo, Chapter No. 1). I request the reading of Resolution No. 360.

Comrade SOUTHARD. I do not have 360. Would the delegate explain the nature of that resolution?

Comrade WILDRIDGE. The delegate has Resolution 360 and with your permission, I will read same.

Second Junior Vice Commander WENTWORTH. Kindly clear the aisles and let's hear this thing. Bring it up here and let the chairman read it.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Wrong committee. That particular resolution pertains to the finance committee and dues report and the finance and dues committee has not reported yet. When they have reported then you will be entitled to present that one, if they don't take action on it.

Comrade WILDRIDGE. Thank you very much, Comrade Commander.

Comrade LESLIE HUNTER (Department of California, Chapter No. 135). I would like to know if Resolution 368 on the extension of the on-the-job training program was read in that first report and I would like to determine if it was read and approved or if there was another similar resolution as to the extension of apprenticeship on the on-the-job training program which we feel in the State of California is highly important since there are so many veterans.

Comrade SOUTHARD. The rehabilitation committee is charged with considering the responsibility of all resolutions regarding rehabilitation and that includes training. I could save you a lot of time because the resolution proposes that we request an increase in training allowance under Public Law 550, where the present ceiling is \$310 a month, to have that increased to \$350 a month. Now, Comrade, let me give you the reasoning of the committee.

You see, Public Law 550 does not refer to disabled veterans. It is for able-bodied veterans and the constitution of the DAV specifically states that we are limited to sponsoring legislation for the disabled, you know, the service-connected disabled. Now this type of resolution, taking care of Public Law 550 which is open to any veteran otherwise qualified, not disabled, it should be handled in some other organization that caters to that type of problem. That is the thinking of the committee.

Comrade HUNTER. Let me give you a tip on that. In following through on that type of legislation there are presently 37 disabled veterans under that program in this one area alone and there was 13 percent of 10,000 of the disabled of California that were disabled that came under this program. So I am very happy that we did get through the department of the American Legion and VFW. Thank you very much.

Second Junior Vice Commander WENTWORTH. That is where it belongs.

Comrade HENRY RIVLIN (Pennsylvania, Chapter No. 22). Now that the committee has concluded its reports and been discharged I move you, Comrade Commander, that the rehabilitation committee be discharged with a rising vote of thanks for a tremendous job that they did at this convention and what they did for the comrades that are not here.

Second Junior Vice Commander WENTWORTH. That has already been passed, Comrade.

Comrade RIVLIN. The committee has been discharged but the committee was not given a rising vote of thanks and I so move you, Comrade Commander.

National Adjutant CORBLY. I will second the motion.

Second Junior Vice Commander WENTWORTH. Will the delegates please rise?

(The convention rose to applaud the rehabilitation committee.)

Comrade MILTON K. WILLIAMS (Nebraska, Chapter No. 7). I wish to ask for unanimous consent to present a resolution on the floor on Americanism. Before I stop for your decision I would like to inform you that it originates in Kansas City chapter, signed by the Kansas City chapter commander, endorsed and signed by the St. Louis Chapter No. 1, endorsed and signed by the Department of Iowa, endorsed and signed by the Department of Nebraska, endorsed and signed by the Department of Kansas, unanimous.

Comrade FRANKLIN THAYER (Colorado, Chapter No. 7). Point of information. I would like to know whether it has been endorsed and signed by the committee on Americanism or not.

Comrade WILLIAMS. If it had been before the committee on Americanism properly, I would not be presenting it now.

Comrade THAYER. Bring it up next year. I object.

National Commander BURKE (now presiding). Objection is heard.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, point of order. Franklin Thayer objected to the convention listening to it and it takes unanimous consent. You cannot hear it.

National Commander BURKE. Under the rules of the convention, you outlined them and you know it. This resolution should have gone to the Americanism committee. It did not go. I recognize you for the purpose of getting unanimous consent. You did not get unanimous consent. Therefore the resolution cannot be read.

Comrade WILLIAMS. The resolution did go to the Americanism committee.

National Commander BURKE. The Americanism committee is finished.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, under the rules, also, if it had been before the committee on Americanism, it was in order to be brought on the floor by the proponent immediately following the discharge of the committee. Otherwise it must have unanimous consent.

Comrade WILLIAMS. Thank you.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair recognizes now for the purpose of the report of the committee on medical treatment and hospitals; Una Wetherby, secretary of the committee.

Comrade UNA WETHERBY. Delegates, the following are resolutions which we accepted:

#### RESOLUTION No. 437

Whereas the House has a Veterans' Affairs Committee; and

Whereas the Senate does not: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the United States Senate form a Veterans' Affairs Committee to determine needs of veterans for the future.

#### RESOLUTION No. 395

Whereas Illinois ranks among the highest of States in veterans population; and

Whereas Chicago, Ill., is the hub center of not only the State of Illinois but of the United States as well, and shortly will become the largest medical center in the world; and

Whereas a veteran with service-connected tuberculosis in this area must either go to a Veterans' Administration Hospital at Madison, Wis., or the State of Illinois Tuberculosis Hospital in Chicago for treatment; and

Whereas medical reports indicate that the tubercular veteran can be effectively treated in his own community; and

Whereas the tubercular veteran patient is far from home and unable to visit with his family and friends, which is not good from a psychological and medical standpoint: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Veterans' Administration be prevailed upon to establish a tuberculosis center here in the Chicago area, and more especially within the vicinity of the Chicago Medical Center.

#### RESOLUTION No. 390

Whereas former members of the Armed Forces permanently retired for physical disability are entitled to hospitalization (including domiciliary care) and medical and dental care by the Veterans' Administration; they are not eligible

for outpatient treatment in Veterans' Administration facilities unless they have filed claims with the VA for compensation and are receiving compensation in lieu of an equivalent amount of retired pay; and

Whereas this retirement pay is for service-connected disability; and many of these veterans are in constant need of medication for their disabilities; and

Whereas no outpatient service or clinic is available for these veterans at most of the Armed Forces hospitals. And, in the few where it is available the distance and cost of travel to the Armed Forces hospital makes it prohibitive to the veteran, because these hospitals will not issue a supply of medication in quantity to extend over a period of time, and

Whereas the confusion in receiving two checks from the Government based on the same disability; there is also an added hardship on the veteran in being called for examination for a service-connected disability which has already been declared of a permanent nature by the Armed Forces, also the possibility of delay in receiving corrected checks caused by the possible change in compensation rating by the Veterans' Administration: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Disabled American Veterans representatives cause the Veterans' Administration to change its regulations pertaining to outpatient treatment of veterans retired for physical disability from the Armed Forces; in order that these veterans may receive outpatient treatment in the same manner as now accorded them for hospitalization of a service-connected disability; without an election to receive compensation from the VA in lieu of retired pay from the Armed Forces. Also, that the Armed Forces again certify to the Veterans' Administration, all eligible veterans retired for physical disability, as this certification was discontinued after passage of the Career Compensation Act; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the above shall in no wise be used to penalize or hinder the veteran from applying for compensation from the VA, when it might be to the veteran's advantage for a possible increase in compensation.

#### RESOLUTION No. 353

Whereas war veterans with compensable service-connected disabilities are presumably handicapped by limitation of employment opportunities and therefore in their abilities to build up reserve funds out of which to take care of the financial costs involved for hospitalization and treatment of some non-service-connected disability, for which they are eligible in a Veterans' Administration hospital only if bed space is available and only if the veteran signs a statement that he cannot afford to make payment personally of the cost of hospitalization; and

Whereas any war veteran with a compensable service-connected disability might well become further handicapped by reason thereof by any delay in procuring needed hospitalization and medical treatment for some other non-service-connected disability, to his own possible future loss and that of his family, and possibly resulting in an increased burden to the United States Veterans' Administration in the future: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, by the Disabled American Veterans in Annual National Convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That we do hereby urge the President and the Congress of the United States to enact a law in effect to provide that any war veteran with a service-connected disability shall have the right to be extended needed hospitalization and medical treatment for any non-service-connected disability, at the cost of the United States Veterans' Administration, without any inquiry into his financial status, on the same basis as for a service-connected disability, except that priority of hospitalization and medical treatment should be extended to those veterans in need thereof for treatment of their service-connected disabilities.

#### RESOLUTION No. 329

Whereas compensable service-connected disabled veterans presently have no priority for needed hospitalization for treatment of any non-service-connected disability as compared with other war veterans who have no service-connected disability, and

Whereas every compensable disabled veteran is presumably handicapped by reason of his service-connected disability in earning a living and building up an estate and should, therefore, have the mandatory right for needed hospitalization in any Veterans' Administration hospital for the treatment of any non-service-connected disability: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957,* That we do hereby respectively request the President and Congress of the United States to so amend the veterans law to provide the Veterans' Administration shall provide hospitalization and medical treatment for any service-connected, compensable, disabled veteran in need of same, as to any non-service-connected disability which he may have, on the same basis as if such hospitalization were needed for treatment of a service-connected disability.

## RESOLUTION No. 326

Whereas the Veterans' Administration is planning to evacuate the Veterans' Administration annex at Fort Snelling, and

Whereas the Veterans' Administration now has no domiciliary facility in this area to care for such terminal cases as heart, cancer, arthritis, or other lingering diseases, and

Whereas it is believed that Fort Snelling annex can be converted into a domiciliary and nursing hospital at nominal cost: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957,* earnestly endorse and support the resolution of Minneapolis Chapter to urge the Veterans' Administration to accomplish such conversion in order that the many disabled veterans in this area who are in dire need of such domiciliary care and are not forced to rely on charity for such care that charity providers may receive the care and treatment that they are rightfully entitled to.

## RESOLUTION No. 309

Whereas there is a great need at the Minneapolis, Minn., Veterans Hospital for additional beds for treatment and care of veterans suffering from disabilities known as terminal cases, which consist of arthritis, vascular diseases, and cancer conditions; and

Whereas at the present time the Veterans' Administration hospital will treat these cases for only a short duration and then discharge them to some charitable home or to the care of their relatives; and

Whereas we believe that this type of case should be adequately taken care of by the Veterans' Administration because of the long period of hospitalization needed with nursing and medical care; and

Whereas the State of Minnesota has a veteran population of over 400,000 and at the present time general medical and tuberculosis beds at the Minneapolis Veterans Hospital number about 800; and

Whereas this need for hospitalization for terminal cases is becoming greater daily in view of the increased age of the veterans: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957,* That we go on record asking that the Minnesota congressional delegation be requested to secure additional beds for this type of case.

## RESOLUTION No. 291

Whereas there exists in the Veterans' Administration system of hospitals certain hospitals known as deans committee or teaching hospitals; and

Whereas certain doctors in these hospitals are there for the purpose of learning and in many cases are studying certain specialties; and

Whereas these student doctors are in general very unfamiliar with Veterans' Administration regulations especially regarding the admitting and/or discharge of veteran patients; and

Whereas there have been repeated cases where these student doctors while acting as medical officer of the day have turned veterans away from the hospital even in the middle of the night because they did not know what the patients' rights were and so they played it safe and refused admittance so they themselves might not be scolded or criticized; and

Whereas there have been repeated cases where these same student doctors have discharged a veteran who should have remained in the hospital for a much longer period and in some cases the veteran had to be rushed to another hospital, in some cases civilian hospitals, and in other cases to United States public-health hospitals, and in other cases to a distant Veterans' Administration hospital; and

Whereas these cited facts have in some instances jeopardized the veteran's life: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans assembled in convention at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, That Congress through the national legislative chairman of the DAV, be petitioned to enact such law to prevent other than regularly employed doctors of the Veterans' Administration who are fully familiar with Veterans' Administration regulations from serving as medical officer of the day in any Veterans' Administration hospital where they may be required to pass on the admittance or discharge of a veteran at a VA hospital.*

## RESOLUTION No. 101

Whereas, under existing laws relating to veterans, veterans are eligible for hospitalization for tuberculosis, neuropsychiatric conditions, and domiciliary care, with certain specified limitations; and

Whereas it is impossible to follow the above-mentioned program due to the fact that the Veterans' Administration has failed to provide adequate facilities and operating funds in the State of Montana so that veterans in need of treatment for tuberculosis, neuropsychiatric conditions, domiciliary care, and general medical care, can obtain necessary treatment promptly in Veterans' Administration facilities in Montana; and

Whereas the Montana veterans' plight has been recognized by the citizens of Montana, the Montana State Legislature, and by Montana's Congressmen in Washington, D. C.; and

Whereas it is unreasonable for the Veterans' Administration to continue to fail to recognize this critical hospital situation; and

Whereas the Veterans' Administration has indicated that they do not intend to take any action relative to this problem in the near future: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, recommend that the President of the United States and Montana's Congressmen take immediate action to again call Montana's hospital situation to the attention of the Veterans' Administrator, Harvey V. Higley, and recommend that immediate action be instigated to start the building program for adequate Veterans' Administration hospital facilities in Montana.*

## RESOLUTION No. 87

Whereas it has come to the attention of the Disabled American Veterans through the records of the press that the American Medical Association and other organizations have called upon the Congress to enact such laws as are necessary to end the free medical care now received by the veterans in veterans' hospitals for nonservice-connected cases, and

Whereas only a short time ago the said American Medical Association did solicit and receive help from the various national veterans' organizations to defeat a bill creating socialized medicine, and

Whereas under the plans advanced by the American Medical Association it would be impossible for hundreds of thousands of service-connected veterans to receive proper medical attention for nonservice-connected disabilities, as a very small percentage of such veterans are financially able to finance such proper medical attention now received: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, through their national director of legislation, urge that if and when such legislation as suggested by the American Medical Association, or any other organization, is introduced for passage that we request our Senators and Representatives to oppose passage of such legislation.*

## RESOLUTION No. 54

Whereas the Fort Logan facility is not at the present time being put to any good use and there are buildings available that are suitable for a Veterans' Administration domiciliary; and

Whereas there is a critical need for this type of bed between California and South Dakota, and there is no domiciliary home in this area; and

Whereas the establishment of a domiciliary center would affect a large financial saving, since the cost per day-patient in an acute G. M. and S. hospital is approximately \$15 to \$18, whereas the average daily cost per patient in a domiciliary unit is approximately \$3.50; and

Whereas there is a demand for beds of this type throughout this entire area, and competent staffing could be made available if such a unit were developed; and

Whereas the VA is also experimenting, at the VA hospital, Los Angeles, in the rehabilitation of individuals over 60 years of age, who are now domiciled in domiciliary barracks, and this could be proposed as a similar unit with the same type of program being instituted in this area; and

Whereas the establishment of a unit of this type would free active hospital beds of chronic cases, and these patients, in turn, could be adequately cared for at a domiciliary unit; and

Whereas previously recommended bed capacities for such a unit at Fort Logan were: Domiciliary, 400 beds; convalescent, 150 beds; and

Whereas the hospitals served by Fort Logan domiciliary would be Denver, Cheyenne, Albuquerque, Grand Island, Grand Junction, Lincoln, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, and Wichita, whose domiciliary patients would more than maintain a 500-bed capacity at Fort Logan at a saving in hospital care of over \$2 million a year: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, urge the Congress to pass legislation creating such domiciliary facility at Fort Logan.*

#### RESOLUTION No. 48

Whereas there is, as yet, no provision by regulation or by law for hospitalization and medical care of disabled members of the Armed Forces who have retired thereby and who receive all of their retired pay from their respective service (unless they are on active duty) in any civilian hospital or from any civilian physician, and

Whereas the Veterans' Administration flatly refuses to furnish outpatient medical care in the way of medications, hospitalization, and physicians on the well-known "hometown" plan, to any disabled and retired member of the Armed Forces, who receives all of his retired pay from his respective service, and

Whereas the Veterans' Administration will furnish hometown care to any disabled veteran with as little as 10 percent disability, and who receive compensation from the VA for service-connected disabilities, and

Whereas the VA will furnish such hometown care to disabled members of the Armed Forces, who are retired therefor, and will waive a portion of their Armed Forces retirement pay and receive in lieu thereof VA compensation, and

Whereas to make such a waiver of a portion of retirement pay and receive in lieu thereof VA compensation, would necessitate much redtape and would entail much expense on the part of both the service and the VA and, of course, the taxpayers, and would result in the retired disabled member of the Armed Forces receiving 2 different checks from 2 different sources, which heretofore has caused administrative errors and delay in pay and which heretofore has caused mixups in payment of NSLI by allotment delays, and

Whereas by simple administration ruling or by law, the disabled retired member of the Armed Forces could, and should be entitled to hometown care by the VA in emergency, at least for service-connected disabilities, without the necessity of having to make any waiver of service retirement pay: Therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19-23, 1957, urge each Member of the Congress to make such provisions as outlined above for hometown medical care of disabled, retired members of the Armed Forces for their respective service-connected disabilities for which they were retired, or for which they can establish later on as being service connected without having to make any waiver of their service retirement pay, and without having to be in receipt of compensation from the Veterans' Administration.*

#### RESOLUTION No. 30

Whereas it has come to our attention through the records of the press that the American Medical Association and other organizations have called upon the Congress to enact such laws as are necessary to end the free medical care now received by the veterans in VA hospitals for non-service-connected cases; and

Whereas only a short time ago the said American Medical Association did solicit and receive help from the various national veterans organizations to defeat a bill creating socialized medicine; and

Whereas under the plans as advanced by the American Medical Association it would be impossible for hundreds of thousands of veterans to receive proper



medical attention as a very small percentage of such veterans are financially able to finance such proper medical attention as now received: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in convention assembled at Buffalo, N. Y., August 19 to 23, 1957, That if and when such legislation as suggested by the American Medical Association is introduced for passage, that we request our Senators and Representatives to oppose such passage.*

Comrade WETHERBY (continuing). We move the adoption of this report.

Comrade MILDRED FISHER (Phoenix, Chapter No. 1). Second the motion.

(The motion was put to a vote and carried.)

Comrade WETHERBY. At this time I would like to request the discharge of the committee members on medical care and hospitalization.

Comrade FRANKLIN THAYER (Colorado, Chapter No. 7). I so move.

Comrade HERMAN LEE (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 12). Second the motion.

(The motion was put to a vote and carried.)

National Commander BURKE. At this time the Chair takes pleasure in presenting the past national commander of the Disabled American Veterans, chairman of the dues and finance committee, to make its report and I am going to ask the delegates to sit down so we can hear this report.

The sergeant at arms will either get the people in that want to get in or seated down.

I take pleasure in presenting to you Howard Watts.

Comrade HOWARD WATTS (finance and dues committee). National Commander, distinguished guests, and delegates, the finance and dues committee have met and after considering all resolutions which were presented to the committee, have favorably passed the following two resolutions:

#### RESOLUTION No. 212

Whereas it is extremely difficult to obtain satisfactory greeting cards for presentation to sick veterans in a hospital or at home and to obtain appropriate expressions of sympathy to relatives of deceased veterans; and

Whereas if such cards contained the insignia of the Disabled American Veterans it would tend to publicize the value of organization to promote comradeship: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the national department of the Disabled American Veterans be urged to take such action as will be necessary to provide suitable cards with expressions of comradeship or condolences at a reasonable cost to the individual chapters.

#### RESOLUTION No. 282

Whereas it has been brought to the attention of this chapter that several of our members who were partially paid life members and in good standing and are now deceased, received no permanent identification similar to the fully paid life membership gold card; and

Whereas several wives, parents, or families of our departed comrades have inquired whether national headquarters has some type of permanent identification for these departed comrades, that can be kept by the families in memory of their departed loved ones; and

Whereas membership in the Disabled American Veterans is an outstanding honor and we feel it is appropriate and fitting that some means be provided for recognizing those partially paid life members in good standing who pass away prior to becoming fully paid life members: Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That a suitable card, similar to, or the same as a fully paid life member be made available by national headquarters to the widow or next of kin, upon request, in memory of these, our departed comrades.

The convention finance and dues committee also referred five resolutions to the national finance committee for final disposition.

The finance and dues committee made a study of the audit of the administration finance committee and approved such audit.

The finance and dues committee was given an explanation and report on the DAV Service Foundation by its executive secretary, Mr. Rice, and copies of the financial audit were given to each member and this committee recommends its approval.

The committee on finance and dues was given a satisfactory explanation by the assistant national adjutant, Mel Corbly, on the operation, cost, and maintenance of the airplane owned by the DAV, in which he stated the operational cost of the airplane for attendance of meetings and business normally carried on by the staff of the DAV at an overall annual cost of about the same amount as would be incurred by other means of transportation—namely, about \$15,000—for in carrying out the duties expected of the national staff of the DAV and also in the attendance of meetings, but with a considerable saving of time and also enabling the national staff to give a greater coverage of department conventions.

The committee recommends that a careful study be made by the national organization in the possibilities of changing the departments and chapters to a calendar year and that such findings be brought before the next national convention.

The committee recommends that at each subsequent national convention that each member of the finance and dues committee be given copies of the auditor's report.

The committee concurs with the permanent national finance committee in advising the national adjutant to cancel the contract with the firm which promoted the TV programs, and further recommends that the permanent national finance committee give careful study to any further proposals involving any subsequent risks.

During its several sessions the convention finance committee had the benefit of the constant consultation of from 2 to 4 members of the permanent national finance committee, by whom they were advised as to the budget for the current calendar year ending December 31, 1957, showing an overall anticipated income of \$2,008,000, and an overall anticipated expenditure of \$1,915,000, thus showing a surplus of \$92,500.

The principal items of such total income are as follows:

Idento-Tag net income.....	\$1,000,000
National per capita tax, profit on sale of merchandise and other miscellaneous income.....	508,000
Appropriation from DAV Service Foundation.....	500,000
Total.....	2,008,000

Inasmuch as no additional appropriations can be expected in the immediate future from the DAV Service Foundation, in view of the fact that its surplus funds have been greatly reduced by its aggregate appropriations of \$3,240,000 for rehabilitation purposes during the past 8 years, the national anticipated net income for 1958 would be reduced to \$1,508,000.

Eliminating the 1957 Hidden Treasure show expense, our 1958 expenditures would, on the same basis as 1957, be reduced to \$1,665,000, thus resulting in an anticipated deficit of \$157,000.

Unanimous in the belief that the DAV should face all realities, your convention finance committee recommends that the national per capita tax should again be increased from \$1 to \$2 per year, effective as of July 1, 1958, with the proviso that out of increased income thereby obtained, each DAV national service officer be given an annual salary increase of at least \$200. If such proposal is adopted, as we most emphatically believe this convention should do, that would result in an increased income of about \$123,000, on the assumption that 90 percent of the per capita tax is collected by December 31, 1958. The deficit at that time would thereby be reduced to \$64,000.

Your committee wishes to point out, however, that it is entirely within the realm of possibility, if not probability, that administrative expenses can be further decreased, and that the net income from the Ident-Tag project will undergo a substantial increase.

The net income from Ident-Tag was increased from about \$313,000 in 1955 to about \$750,000 in 1956, a net increase during the last year, as compared with the previous year of about \$440,000, more than 100 percent increase.

Comrade SIDNEY SILLER (past departmental commander of New York). Point of order. Mr. Commander, do I understand the report to read that there will be an additional dollar increase in per capita tax?

Comrade WATTS. It is a recommendation.

Comrade SILLER. Well then, Mr. Commander, I might comment. It is my belief—

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, as a point of order, discussion on the report is in order after the report has been completed and a motion is on the floor. Then you can interpose your objection.

Comrade SILLER. Then I ask for the floor at the immediate conclusion of the report.

National Commander BURKE. Request will be granted.

Comrade WATTS. The national finance committee has therefore been quite conservative in its estimate that the net income from the Ident-Tag project will probably reach \$1 million this year. Your convention finance committee joins in their hope that such \$1 million Ident-Tag income figure will be substantially further increased during 1958. This however is something that we cannot bank on. There are too many uncertainties and unknown factors. Therefore, your convention finance committee has arrived at its conclusions on the basis of the assumption that the Ident-Tag income during 1958 would be at least the same as is anticipated for 1957, namely \$1 million.

Here is an important thing I think everybody should listen to. If DAV membership were increased by only 11 percent during 1958, then the budget would be fully balanced by December 31, 1958. That isn't very much of an increase we are asking, 11 percent over this Nation should be gotten very easily. If our proposal that the national per capita tax be increased from \$1 to \$2 is approved by this convention, surely it should be possible for all of us collectively to increase DAV membership by at least 21,335 during the coming year. There are very potent reasons why, with an anticipation of increased activities along membership solicitation lines, our overall membership could be increased by several times that number.

These two possibilities for further increasing DAV income also hold forth the promise of providing further increases in the too low salaries of the full-time national service officers of the DAV. Their rehabilitation services constitute the primary reason for the continued existence and further development of the DAV, our voice of America's disabled defenders.

*Anticipated budgets*

	Ending Dec. 31, 1957	Ending Dec. 31, 1958
<b>Income:</b>		
Estimated Identio-Tag income.....	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Per Capita tax and miscellaneous income.....	508,000	508,000
DAV Service Foundation appropriations.....	500,000	-----
Increase in per capita tax.....	-----	123,000
Subtotal.....	2,008,000	1,631,000
With 21,335 more members at \$3 per member.....	-----	64,000
Total.....	2,008,000	1,695,000
<b>Expenses:</b>		
General expenses.....	1,665,000	1,665,000
Hidden Treasure show.....	250,000	-----
Increase in national service officer salaries.....	-----	30,000
Total.....	1,915,000	1,695,000
Excess.....	93,000	-----
Deficit.....	-----	64,000

The chairman and secretary of the finance and dues committee wish to thank all the members of the committee for their fine cooperation, all the members of the administration finance committee; to Mr. Rice, executive secretary of the Service Foundation; to Mr. Mel Corbly, assistant national adjutant; and Mr. Willard Hall of the national staff, and all others who have helped the committee in discharging the resolutions and problems which were considered by this committee. The committee especially wishes to thank Mr. McFarland of the national finance committee for his constant attendance at the meetings and his advice given to this committee.

Mr. Chairman, I move the adoption of the finance and dues committee report, and the dismissal of the committee.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON (Buddies Chapter, No. 1, Texas). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. Motion made and seconded; the national adjutant rises for a point of information.

National Adjutant CORBLY. This is a report of the convention finance and dues committee. The report is a recommendation to various bodies, primarily to the convention, secondarily to the national finance committee. And in the third place to the constitution and bylaws committee of this convention.

If you adopt this report, you are not increasing per capita tax. You are merely adopting a report and recommendation that per capita tax be increased.

Why would I try to fool the convention? If you listen to me I think you would concur.

National Commander BURKE. The chairman requests order.

National Adjutant CORBLY. All of you pull out your constitution and bylaws and you will find in the bylaws a provision which states that national per capita tax is \$1 and that there shall be a service fee of \$1. And the only way that you can increase per capita tax is by amending your constitution and bylaws for that provision. Consequently your debate and your argument on the proposal should be when the constitution and bylaws committee gives its report this morning. Yesterday morning the constitution and bylaws committee gave a preliminary report. The committee did not recommend an increase in per capita tax, but it did give a minority recommendation for an increase of per capita tax. All I bring the point of information to you for is to save time and help you reach your conclusions, not for the purpose of stampeding you, or hoodwinking you.

National Commander BURKE. Sidney Siller, No. 23, New York.

Comrade SIDNEY SILLER (New York, Chapter No. 23). Mr. Commander, officers of the national department, my comrades, I think that we have just heard a report which embodies a proposal which I think is quite important not only to every member of the Disable American Veterans but to the national service officers particularly, and I rise at this time to speak not only in behalf of the national service officers but in behalf of all the chapters of our great organization.

It seems to me that a tax raise at this time will result in an income of one hundred and thirty thousand-odd dollars to the national treasury. I would like to ask two pertinent questions of the chairman or the commander or the national adjutant if he will, or whoever sees fit to answer these questions, namely, how many national service officers do we have at the present?

National Adjutant CORBLY. One hundred and forty-eight.

Comrade SILLER. And how much will the sum total salary increases and increment total?

National Adjutant CORBLY. Again a point of information. Your national organization operates under the desires of the convention insofar as it is possible. The finances of the organization under your bylaws are in the hands of the national finance committee. The proposal that is in this report is a convention committee report which recommends, as I understood it, a minimum salary increase of \$200. That is not a limitation of \$200. It was a minimum. They cited to you budget figures which in their judgment were such that they could give at least \$200.

The matter, of course, cannot be resolved by this convention or by the committee. It has to be resolved, if passed, by the national finance committee. And there is no one who can tell you what the national finance committee will do until after the finance committee has been formed. Under our bylaws the national finance committee cannot take action until your election is over, a commander is elected, and he has appointed 2 members of the national finance committee, thereby giving him a majority expression on the finance committee together with the 2 holdover members of the finance committee.

From the standpoint of an adjutant, I am not in a position to answer your questions because it has not been resolved and we have not been given instructions as to its application or implication, if passed and referred to the finance committee.

Comrade SILLER. Money has no earmarks. I then asked whether or not the aggregate of 130,000-odd dollars will be specifically ear-

marked and placed in escrow for the use of salary increases for our national service officers.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, that cannot at the present time be answered specifically by anybody. But, if I were adjutant I would recommend to a national finance committee that it not be earmarked and placed in escrow for any particular purpose. You have to have money to operate a business. I have been asked a question and please let me answer it. You have 800 employees. You have 148 service officers. There is not a man in any administration that I have been with that has not leaned over backward to do everything that they could for the service officers. But there are also other problems. The majority of our workers at national headquarters, almost your entire Idento-Tag operation, are working for \$1 an hour, the minimum wage, and in that group you have some supervisors, some college trained men, some executives and some administrators who are working for far less than national service officers are. I don't think when you are dealing with an organization of this nature that you can single out a particular segment of operation and earmark money for it, particularly when you are operating on a shoestring and you have deficits at the end of the year. Thank God we had the Service Foundation during the last 4 or 5 years to provide us the money, the wherewithal to take care of the service officers and also some other activity. All of their money went to service, all of the \$3,200,000, but in going there it did relieve Idento-Tag moneys and other sources of revenue to carry on the other operations.

You asked us to economize and we have economized almost to the extent that it is possible to do. You can't maintain a definite overhead and operate unless you have the wherewithal to pay for that operation. And there are certain things that must be paid.

First we have got to pay the salaries of our employees. We have got to have those employees at national headquarters or you can't have the Idento-Tags in the mail to get the wherewithal to furnish the bulk. We have been in a rather peculiar position. As disabled veterans and members of this outfit we have been very glad and thankful and appreciative of the generous contributions of the general public to the welfare of our organization and its purposes, and at one time not too long ago the citizens of this country contributed money to the extent that we had a net 1 year of \$2,700,000. The net this year approximated \$800,000. But on the other hand, as members of our own organization, we are not assuming our own responsibilities in the degree that the organization used to. Prior to 1945 the membership from this organization, its dues at that time were \$2 each, paid 80 percent of the overhead cost of the organization. Today you are paying 20 percent of your overhead cost of the organization. We are the type of an organization or a business or a corporation or whatever you might describe, which is not in a position to raise the price of our product in conformity with the constant raises in the costs of our supplies and materials. As postage goes up, as the cost of paper goes up, as the cost of secretaries and labor go up, as the cost of supplies go up, we still get the same things that we were receiving back in 1945 from per-capita tax, from service fee, and our contributors still send the same amount of money. The 50 cents they sent in 1941, the 25 cents they sent in 1942, or the dollar they sent in 1943. The service that we give, which is one of our products, is given for nothing and

there is no way that you can realize revenue with which to pay for it except through the generosity of the public we go to.

We should take the attitude, in my judgment, if earmarking of money is a necessity, of earmarking the money that our own members put into this organization to pay our administrative costs, and put the contributions that we receive from the public and earmark it for service, it would give us a better opportunity and make our public relations job much better if we could say to the public, this money that you are contributing is used for the services of our organization. Today we have to say it is used for the legitimate purposes of our organization.

There is not much difference between administration and service because without one you couldn't have the other. In the instance of administration were it not there you couldn't have service and if you didn't have service, you wouldn't have any reason to raise money.

This is a fraternal body, an organization which was created out of the minds of your predecessors, your grandfathers, in an effort to do a job for a disabled people and you know the greatest drawback to doing that job is the fact that you and I do not assume the fullest of responsibility that is within us in making it possible for us to do that job. There are 3 million men eligible for membership and we closed this year with 196,500 members. A militant, aggressive program on the part of you people, utilizing the same spirit that you used in this convention in attempting to correct the inequities of the Veterans' Administration directed in the field of membership, could bring revenue at the present rate of per-capita tax great enough to finance our entire project and make it unnecessary for us to make Ident-o-Tags.

I have been with you a long time and I have been with you primarily because I love this outfit. I love the people who make it up. I carry out your instructions. I was asked a question and I think there are some times when it is advisable to tell the stockholders about the stock they hold. You are privileged at any time to change administrations, to change policies, to change the rules that govern your convention and to change your constitution and bylaws, and until you do all those things there is not much to be accomplished by booing me because I am just a poor, little, old, paid employee. I apologize for taking so much of your time.

Comrade SILLER. Mr. Commander, comrades, I have been standing here so long I almost forgot what I was about to say.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair points out he has been lenient with the delegate. He has spoken four times on this already.

Comrade SILLER. Then I shall come to the point. I believe the materiality of the issue here is per capita rise, a dollar a head, in relationship to salary increases for service officers at a minimum of \$200 per man.

I, therefore, move at this time that the report of the past national commander, Howard Watts, be amended to read that if the delegates here vote to increase the per-capita tax that those moneys be laid in escrow for the use of national service officer salary increases only.

Comrade ROY F. STANCHFIELD (Cincinnati, Chapter No. 1). Our adjutant has pointed out a fact to us that I think the—

National Commander BURKE. Point of order. There must be a second to the other amendment if that is what you are speaking on.

Comrade STANCHFIELD. I am not speaking on the amendment.

National Commander BURKE. I am waiting for a second to the amendment.

Comrade C. T. SANDALL (District of Columbia, Chapter No. 1). Second the motion.

Comrade WM. G. KOHLAN (Minneapolis, Chapter No. 1). I am speaking in favor of the motion for this reason: The DAV has one project to sell; service to the disabled by our national service officers. You go out to the public, the public is interested in the DAV. Why? Because you represent the disabled veterans. I don't care what the administrative costs of this organization are, the fact is that this organization was organized for one purpose, service to the disabled, and when we forget about that factor we are forgetting what we are here for.

I am speaking as a grassroots representative. I came 1,079 miles. I am not going back from this convention and say I failed my obligations as a delegate. We know what the sentiments are. It is true that they have administrative costs but we can definitely earmark money for our service officers because of the fact when I go back to my membership, they say, "What did you do for me?" I can say, "My organization represents disabled veterans."

"How do we represent them?"

"We represent by having fellows like Frank Monnahan."

It is told to you that you as the people speak for the disabled of this country, the delegates and their chapters throughout America. All right, I was very happy to hear that. We are not an organization that comes from the top and centers down from the bottom; now I find it starts at the bottom and goes up.

You have a duty. If you don't fulfill your duty then you are wasting your time here and are not fulfilling your obligations to your disabled comrades. I belong to the DAV because I represent other disabled who can't be here today and if I don't come up and speak, when I hear statements coming in this category, then I feel I have wasted my time for the last week. I am not going to waste my time anymore. The DAV has to be a militant organization and it has to go forward and we have to go forward by being of service. And how are you going to go forward? We can do it by earmarking the money. If you don't earmark the money and earmark it for a good cause, then all the money you have raised is a waste down the drain.

Now fellows, there is a good motion, we can mandate the national finance committee to get on the ball to earmark this money for a good cause, and they should follow our recommendations.

Comrade FLOYD MING (past national commander). Floyd Ming, from Bakersfield, Calif., member of the finance committee. I think a lot of people in this room enjoyed with me a very good convention in Boston. I was given the privilege of representing this organization for a wonderful year, and certainly during that year I met and talked with most of our national service officers and those in the field and those in the Washington service office, and I doubt if any national service officer present today would say but that we have attempted to get an increase in salary commensurate with a cost-of-living increase. But as a member of the finance committee, may I point out this just for consideration? It is unfortunate that in a convention the size of ours that all members present don't have the opportunity to sit through the sum of 14½ or 15 hours that was spent by your national



finance and dues committee at the convention. I think, had you had the opportunity to do that some of these questions that have been raised and some of the answers that have been given would have already been a part of the knowledge that each one of you have. And after you had all this knowledge I am sure you would have found this and certainly the anticipated budget and the working budget of the DAV from year to year is set and the national organization, service and administrative, including Idento-Tag, make every honest attempt to follow it. But you would find by scanning the sheets that projected through next year if we mandate the entire increase should this convention decide to raise the per capita tax \$1, you will find that it is quite possible that we might be giving to all of our national service officers of whom I am certainly in favor of giving an increase and am spokesman for them, but you might find yourselves in the position of having to pay them each year the increase and they might have to wait 3 years for your regular salary.

I am not being facetious now, Commander, and not attempting at this time to debate with my noisy friends behind me, because they had a representative, Nick Cachianes. Nick sat on the committee, from New York. Nick didn't report back or I wouldn't have received his boos. I can remember when I went into New York and didn't receive boos, so apparently at this time they are misinformed. So again I ask all of you in this convention to consider if you attempt to earmark or mandate an entire appropriation you are going contrary to good practice for the reason that in figuring out and working out an overall budget it might well be that a portion of this money will be needed to meet the regular salaries because of a deficit. Those who say no, please come over next year and sit with us for hours and hours in the finance committee and you wouldn't be saying no. You might find that by doing that you limit your operations to the point of having to say, "So many service officers have to go."

Now we have never done that in this organization, I have looked back through the history. I am a comparatively new member, I have had the pleasure of being a life member of the DAV for 13 years.

Comrade JOSEPH HAROLD (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). I believe there is a rule in this convention that speakers are limited to a certain amount of time and I request that the rule be adhered to.

National Commander BURKE. The point of the delegate is well taken that there is a limit of time. Floyd, if you will summarize as quickly as possible.

Comrade MING. Quickly, the only reason I am taking any time, fellows, is this: Certainly I don't want to monopolize this convention, because I want to come back on a more timely or pleasant topic than this. I only want to point out; please avail yourself of the information that is given at the time we consider this point. Consider it, because it is most imperative that the Disabled American Veterans gets itself in a position of operating each year in the black. Certainly this minor contribution upon the part of the membership will tend to create a situation of operating without a deficit. Now if you are going to give raises we must then certainly be in the position to operate.

Comrade NICK CACHIANES (Amputation, New York). The point is this, this is true, I didn't vote in favor of that resolution and I

apologize to my delegation for doing so. The members of that committee could tell you that I asked many, many questions regarding the whole finance report. However, I stupidly did not make an issue of it because a member of our delegation was a chairman of that committee and for that I apologize.

Comrade JOSEPH HAROLD (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). I wish to ask a question on this. We have an amendment here to a report from the finance committee. Is that correct?

National Commander BURKE. We have an amendment.

Comrade HAROLD. Assuming this amendment is adopted, and the report is accepted that does not raise the per capita tax. It still has to be voted on by the constitutional change which will require a two-thirds vote. So I would like to suggest if they will only cease talking, I think the delegates know how they are going to vote and if we accept this amendment we accept the report and then we work on this thing. But it comes up in the constitutional committee and I am sure under that program we will tell the constitutional committee how we personally feel on this.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair points out that the delegate from Massachusetts is entirely correct. This cannot be finally culminated until the constitution and bylaws committee reports. On the amendment which was offered by Siller of New York, it still has to come up under constitution and bylaws. That is the only change. The point can be made we can be democratic and argue about it all day long, but we are going to face the same thing when the constitution and bylaws report is given.

Comrade SEYMOUR LEFTON (New Mexico, Chapter No. 3). Point of information.

National Commander BURKE. I want to point out right now we are not ready to accept the report yet. We are only talking on a proposed amendment.

Comrade SIDNEY SILLER. I would like to ask whether or not the constitution and bylaws committee at this convention has been dismissed or not.

National Commander BURKE. No; the report is out, Sidney, after this. They can only report out after the finance and dues committee report and that is why I am telling you, you are going to argue this whole thing all over again then. Vote on your amendment one way or the other.

Comrade HOWARD WATTS. I would like to point out that we recommend to the constitution and bylaws committee, we are not making a motion, we are recommending to them. They are the ones that will bring it to the floor. If you listened to what I read you heard me say, "We recommend." So why all of this now when you are going to have to do it all over again?

National Commander BURKE. If you want to work off steam we are a democratic organization. I have made my point, now I will recognize some more people. But sooner or later you are going to have to vote this thing again.

Comrade HENRY RIVLIN (Liberty Chapter No. 22, Pennsylvania). I believe that the original motion was to accept the committee's report. The amendment to the motion, as I understand it, was to earmark the money. I believe, to clear the atmosphere, I would amend that we

accept the report of the finance and dues committee, except that portion dealing with the increase in dues, and let that come up under the constitution and bylaws committee report.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair points out we can accomplish the same thing by voting on the amendment and then voting on the main motion.

The Chair recognizes the center microphone.

Comrade MILLARD W. RICE (past national commander). I am a past national commander. I have credentials as a delegate from the Minneapolis chapter and also credentials from the National Service Chapter 9 of the District of Columbia.

During my absence, the fifth district elected me a member of the convention finance committee and I served on the committee to the exclusion of attending these sessions the last 3 days. I believe I have a unique background that puts me in the position of saying that I don't think there is anybody in the organization that has any keener interest in the welfare of the national service officers of the DAV than I. I had my start as a volunteer service officer in Minneapolis for some time and was appointed part time on \$125, then a so-called full-time service officer and then I had my pay discontinued completely, because of lack of funds, by the national organization. So I know what I am talking about.

I also served as national service director of the DAV for a number of years. It so happens that I was the author of the resolution that put this convention on record that our primary contribution to the emergency program of the Nation should be to provide needed service to disabled veterans from the Armed Forces. It so happens I was a party to convincing some 400 handicapped veterans to train for the program of becoming national service officers and I very keenly feel, very, very keenly feel, the necessity for providing for them adequately.

But I also believe in looking at reality. I was a party to the report that has been submitted by this committee. I do wish to call your attention, in all frankness, if you should adopt this particular amendment to the report of the convention finance and dues committee, you are doing something that will in effect reduce what might otherwise be provided for the national service officers because we have recommended that the constitution be amended to be effective as of July 1, 1958, so that nothing, nothing whatsoever, could accrue in a separate fund until after that if you adopt this particular amendment.

On the other hand, if you defeat the proposed amendment and let it be as it is, it's only an "if-if" proposition anyway, because of the convention finance and dues committee in effect said, "if," "if you adopt the amendment to provide for an increase in national per capita tax of \$1, then we urge, we almost insist, that at least a salary increase of \$200 a year should be provided for out of that."

Now, if that is followed then the national finance committee projecting forward the budget until the end of 1958 could grant that increase almost as well as at the beginning of the next year because they can then anticipate. But if you adopt the amendment which you now have before you and segregate it only for that purpose, you don't start the segregation until July 15, 1958, so you are doing exactly the opposite of what you want to do.

But the important thing is to face realities. The DAV has had a deficit in its operations for several years. We want to stop it. As a matter of fact, it has to be stopped because there is no longer any reserve either in the DAV or the DAV Service Foundation, because you can't get blood out of a turnip and that is what your convention finance committee desires to do in recommending this.

My appeal to you is that you accept the report of the committee, then this particular thing won't mean anything unless you subsequently decide to adopt an amendment to the constitution to increase the per-capita tax to this particular amendment. Otherwise, you are working against your own interest in trying to provide adequately for service officers. There are other ways by which I, for one, hope and pledge myself to work far beyond the \$200.

Comrade LEO LALLEY (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). I have been listening to the Chair, to the national adjutant, to the past national commander, Millard Rice. I have distinctly heard him say accept the report of the committee. I believe the original motion was to adopt, or did I hear Mr. Corbly say the last couple of days you must accept and not adopt? Therefore, this whole thing is out of order.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, also a point of order. The reports of your permanent chairman of committees like the director of claims, chairman of the finance committee, the national adjutant, and others, you accept them and refer to committees.

Now you are acting upon the legislative channels of your own convention and you adopt or reject their recommendations.

National Commander BURKE. I recognize the microphone on my left first.

Comrade MILES DRAPER (Tampa Chapter, No. 4, Florida). I am asking for information in behalf of others who, like myself, are fully paid life members.

I believe that the cost of our life membership was originally figured on an actuarial basis based upon the amount that is taken out each year to pay our National, State, and local per-capita tax.

Now if we take out an additional \$1 per member out of the life membership fund for each life member, or an additional national per-capita tax, will that upset the actuarial basis to the point of where it upsets the program?

National Commander BURKE. I refer the question to the national adjutant.

National Adjutant CORBLY. The proposal and the recommendation of the finance committee is that this be applied only to annual membership. The trust, life membership fund, could not be changed insofar as its application is concerned without another amendment to the constitution and bylaws. So that is why they gave you figures of \$130,000 revenue rather than \$200,000 which would include life members.

Comrade DRAPER. I think then that the adoption of this proposal would be a great incentive for members to all become life members.

Comrade CHARLES C. COUPE (New York, Chapter No. 82). Everybody is telling us this is an "if" proposition. If it is such an "if" proposition why not accept it? How come our good Past Commander

Ming starts the tactics that are always used, "there won't be any money"?

National Commander BURKE. Let me point out one thing. I want to hear what you have to say and I recognized you but I am going to ask your indulgence in one thing. If you want to argue the question as to what Ming said, don't refer to him as "using tactics." Refer to his arguments.

Comrade COUPE. Words; if you want to be picayune, I will be picayune. We always point to the fact that we give service, we raise our money on that basis. When there is a lack of money a statement is made that maybe the fellows will have to take a cut or lose their jobs. How come there is always money for projects which lately seem to be losing money? Here we are asking for money and all we are asking that you do with this money is earmark it for the men that you are always happy to put on our letterheads that furnish the services to the veterans. And for this reason I move that the amendment even though it is an "if" proposition, be adopted.

Comrade LAURIER LAMONTAGNE (department commander of New Hampshire). At this time I want to amend the amendment. I would like to ask a question of the chairman of the finance committee first. If we do adopt the amendment, and then after the amendment has been accepted we have to accept the committee report, and the per-capita tax is voted down even so, if it has to be referred to another committee, doesn't this report recommend a raise to the service officers?

Comrade HOWARD WATTS. Not without the increase in per-capita tax because we don't have the money. There is no finances to do it. What we are trying to do is get finances so we can give them a raise.

Comrade LAMONTAGNE. Then I believe at this time I would like to—May I have permission to speak in opposition to the amendment?

Comrades, at this time I want to say this. Here is my reason why I am opposing the present amendment which is now before you to be voted on. I did not want to take the floor and talk either way but personally I believe that coming from a small department that New Hampshire would be faced with a very serious problem when it comes to the amount of membership. I would like to give you an example of what it is, especially where there are chapters in our country. In New Hampshire you can buy a hamburger sandwich for 20 cents but if you come down here you have to pay almost 40 cents for that sandwich. Now here we have a small department. I am telling you that if it is possible that the per-capita tax will be raised, it would be a serious problem for New Hampshire to increase its membership.

Now I am being frank. We are working very, very hard to increase our membership and I know very well if we do this nationwide in increasing the membership that the finances would have plenty of funds to take care of it, but I am telling you if we accept the amendment that is now before us that certainly the small departments are going to be faced with that problem of losing members and I mean it.

So at this time I would like to move that the present amendment be laid on the table.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Point of order, Comrade Commander.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair points out to the delegate that he spoke on the question. I want to recognize this microphone over here.

Comrade ROBERT C. GONZALEZ (Florida, Chapter No. 23). I think that all the delegates seated here know exactly what we are voting on as far as the amendment is concerned. I think they know exactly what we are voting on as far as the main motion is concerned. I think they all know that this will not in any way bind us that we are going to have a raise in per capita tax. I see no further reason for any further discussion and I move you, sir, and call for the question.

Comrade T. M. McCULLOUGH (Alabama, Chapter No. 4). Second the motion.

Comrade JESSE CARL HALL (Alabama, Chapter No. 1). I move that we table all amendments to the constitution, I mean the finance and dues committee's report. I so move.

National Commander BURKE. There may be other amendments to come after this one.

Is there a second to the motion?

Comrade EDWARD HOFFMAN (Michigan, Chapter No. 1). I second the amendment to the motion. I mean I second the motion to table.

National Commander BURKE. The question is not debatable. The motion is made and seconded that the amendment be tabled. All in favor?

Opposed?

The Chair will call—do you understand what you are voting on? You are voting that the amendment be tabled. The Chair will ask for those who wish to support the tabling of the amendment to stand.

Comrade SILLER. Point of order.

National Commander BURKE. The motion in the judgment of the Chair as far as the Chair sees it, the motion to table has carried.

Comrade JOHN VICAT (New York, Chapter No. 28). Can an amendment table a resolution? May we ask the judge advocate to answer, to rule?

National Commander BURKE. The only thing you will get from the judge advocate while I am in the Chair is an opinion. The Chair will make the rulings because that is the way it goes.

National Judge Advocate HOFFMANN. Robert's Rules of Order provide that an amendment can be tabled but it doesn't table the main motion. You are just tabling the amendment. Then we will vote on the main motion.

Comrade NICK CACHIANES (Amputation Chapter, New York). Since you tabled the amendment I spoke on a point of information once before.

Comrade SEYMOUR LEFTON (New Mexico, Chapter No. 3). At several parts of the finance committee report—

Comrade JOHN VICAT (New York, Chapter No. 28). I think it is unfair of the commander to place this question before the judge advocate and go on and listen to other delegates. We are stating whether we are for or against what we are speaking on. Will the commander please ask the judge advocate to read the section of Robert's Rules of Order which will confirm—

(Cries of "No.")

National Commander BURKE. The Chair points out he is not being unfair. The vote was made in my judgment and certainly I don't think, John, that you disagree with that. The motion carried for the tabling. What do you want from me? Since you asked me to get an opinion of the judge advocate—

Comrade VICAT. You know the vote was not fair. Let me appeal the decision of the Chair.

National Commander BURKE. For what purpose?

Comrade SIDNEY SILLER. Seconded by Comrade Siller.

National Commander BURKE. The decision—

Comrade SILLER. No. 1, you don't know who is a delegate. The voice vote was close. No. 2, the motion to table was made for indefiniteness. It did not state specifically what it was to be tabled for. The ruling of the judge advocate was erroneous because he did not cite the specific section nor did he read it. He just, off the cuff, said it was a proper motion.

Comrade NICK O. ISAACSON (Illinois, Chapter No. 2). Mr. Commander—

National Commander BURKE. Are you speaking on the appeal?

Comrade ISAACSON. No; I am not speaking on the appeal.

National Commander BURKE. Then hold it until we get the appeal over. The Chair will retire on the basis of the statement that has been made.

Comrade LEO LALLY (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). I ask why the commander is retiring from the rostrum?

National Commander BURKE. Only because you are going to call for another vote and in my opinion the vote will be the same. If they want to appeal a decision they still have to go through the ordinary processes of appealing, which they haven't started yet.

Comrade LALLY. I don't believe, Comrade Commander, we wish you to leave the rostrum. You are doing a good job and we want you to stay there.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA (now presiding). I recognize Comrade Vicat.

Comrade VICAT. I wish at this time to withdraw the appeal.

Comrade ISAACSON. Mr. Commander—

National Commander BURKE. I am going to recognize you, Nick, the Chair wishes to thank the convention for the expression of confidence.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Go ahead, Isaacson.

Comrade ISAACSON. It is my understanding to adopt the report of the finance committee is now before the house.

Comrade SEYMOUR LEFTON. Point of order. Point of information for the third time. If that is the case, I had a point of information and I was interrupted. Once again Seymour Lefton, Albuquerque, Chapter No. 3.

At three different times I heard a statement that the cost of the Hidden Treasure Show was \$251,937.52. I would like to know wasn't this net loss? If not, what if any, was the financial return?

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. I will ask Past National Commander Watts to answer that.

Comrade HOWARD WATTS. In the report read by Frank Buono the other day he gave you the net cost, I mean pardon me, the gross cost of \$251,937.52.

Comrade LEFTON. That was a net cost. Was there any return? Did somebody send in one dollar?

Comrade HOWARD WATTS. My wife sent in two.

National Adjutant CORBLY. May I answer the question?

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. I will ask National Adjutant Corbly to answer the question.

National Adjutant CORBLY. The \$251,000 figure was the gross cost. That included the \$55,000 prizes which have not as yet been paid. We have the checks for the first 10 prizes with us, and since we have been here we have received the names of the entire 410 winners. The checks are being drawn at national headquarters and will be sent out just as soon as they come. That also includes the cost of the prizes in the hospital contest which approximate \$10,000; \$63,000 was the return.

Comrade ISAACSON. Comrade Commander, I am bringing up a matter that I consider important under the head of general privilege because I did not wish to interfere with the debate on the important matter referring to finance.

I wish to state at this time that at last year's convention, I presented a minority report of the finance committee which was duly adopted by, as I recall, an overwhelming vote. To corroborate this statement the report was duly published in our minutes. It referred to the question of the \$45,000 expenditure for public relations. Our committee debated this matter at great length. There were those on the committee who had considerable knowledge of public relations, and there were those who had considerable knowledge of the public relations firm which was involved in this discussion.

Now in view of the fact that this motion was duly enacted by the convention but completely disregarded and ignored, by those responsible for carrying out the effect of this resolution, I desire at this time, under the heading of general privilege, to ask the Chair under what section of our bylaws or constitution this resolution passed by the delegates of our convention was held in complete contempt and ignored.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. I will ask Adjutant Corbly again to answer Isaacson's question.

National Adjutant CORBLY. I am answering as secretary of the national finance committee. The recommendation made as a result of Nick Isaacson's motion to the San Antonio convention which he presented as a minority report of the finance and dues committee, was given consideration by the national finance committee at its first meeting in Cincinnati, following the national convention.

The national finance committee in its report submitted to you Tuesday morning had as a part of that report a statement to the effect that two recommendations made by the San Antonio convention were such that in their judgment and under the authority of the constitution and bylaws, which tells them what their duties are, they were not in a position and did not believe it advisable under the circumstances to put either of the two recommendations into action.

Comrade ISAACSON. Comrade Corbly, I am sure you will yield the microphone to me now because that seems to be the essence of the explanation. Is that true?

National Adjutant CORBLY. To the best of my ability.

Comrade ISAACSON. Now then I want to call your attention to the fact this was not a recommendation. It was a motion, it was concise and it was without any complications so that it was easily understandable as a motion. And for that purpose I am going to read the motion and I wish the convention to bear with me for just a moment:



Whereas during the past fiscal year an amount in excess of \$45,000 was appropriated and spent for the services of a public relations agency, and

Whereas the measure of improved public relations and publicity resulting from this expenditure has been minimal, compared to the amount paid for material and services, and

Whereas in view of the foregoing, this \$45,000 appropriation if used to increase salaries among our staff of 161 service officers, would allow a raise in their pay of more than \$24 a month for each such service officer, it being known that this staff is not adequately paid for the highly important work they carry forward: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That this expenditure for public relations be discontinued, \* \* \*."

Now that wasn't a recommendation. That was a resolution. Then it continued:

That it be recommended to the national finance committee that the above savings of \$45,000 be appropriated to augment the salaries of our national service staff.

Now the first was a resolution. It was apparent to anyone on the committee who read it, including two men who were not on the committee who are members of the national finance committee, it was an understanding that it was a resolution. The remainder was a recommendation so far as the disposition of the funds. It made known the opinion of that part of the committee. I want to say that the minority report was actually half of the committee, there was a tie vote.

Now comrades, under the heading of general privilege for all the members of this convention because this is an important subject, going deeply into the question of whether our resolutions mean anything or not, I wish for an explanation. [Applause.]

Comrade ALFRED CHURCHILL (Michigan, Chapter No. 5). Do we or do we not have a motion of our 1957 convention on the floor at the present time? Is this other conversation not out of order?

Comrade ISAACSON. Roberts Rules of Order states that general privilege is in order.

Comrade HOWARD WATTS. I will answer that, I ended by saying, "Mr. Chairman, I move the adoption of the finance and dues committee report." It was duly seconded. Then the amendment came. Then the amendment was tabled. And we are still on the motion to adopt, or kick in the teeth this report.

First Junior Vice Commander HETALA. All in favor of the finance and dues committee report—

Comrade FLOYD GROOTHUS (Illinois, Chapter No. 28). Point of order. The comrade asked for an explanation that was not given. Roberts Rules of Order states he is entitled to that privilege, he has never been answered.

First Junior Vice Commander HETALA. I still don't know if this motion was carried.

That is not on this motion. That is out.

Comrade MILLARD RICE. Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of order. If the convention refuses to adopt the convention finance committee report it remains in limbo, as it were. As a substitute motion, I move that the report be accepted and made of record in the convention proceedings.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON. Second the motion.

Comrade RICE. As a substitute motion for the one that has just been voted on, I call attention to the fact that if you refuse to accept

the report, the report remains up here in limbo some place. Nothing happens to it at all. In lieu thereof, I move that the report not be adopted or approved but that it be accepted and included in the convention proceedings.

Comrade SIDNEY SILLER. There is a request for an answer with respect to the delegate from Illinois and I think that it should be handled at this time.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON. Point of information. As I sat here after Comrade Isaacson asked a question, Comrade Corbly made the explanation of the finance committee in San Antonio and he also answered Comrade Nick Isaacson to the best of his ability. I thought that was the answer.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. The Chair would like to have order. The Chair requests order. We are here at a convention. We are going to settle these problems as we come to them. We can't settle them if you become unruly. Isaacson has posed a question.

National Commander BURKE. I was a member of the finance committee and under my responsibilities under the constitution and by-laws, I looked at this matter that moneys cannot be spent by a convention. They have to be spent by the finance committee. This recommendation was looked at, studied very carefully.

I made a speech here the other day in which I gave a report. It seemed to me that at that time I discussed rather fully the values of a public relations and a publicity committee. I said a lot of things. No one took exception to my report at that time. I couldn't see, as a member of the finance committee, that that money could be delegated to the service officers. I don't think there is a service officer in this room who could honestly say to me that I don't have their welfare and interests at heart. But the recommendation made to the finance committee was not feasible and for that reason—

FROM THE FLOOR. The mandate.

National Commander BURKE. I say it is a recommendation to a finance committee because the finance committee is the only one who can appropriate and spend money. You just gave me an expression of confidence to return to this Chair. I was recognized. I am not in the Chair, I am making my statement as regards the situation. I told you I would place myself squarely behind the report. You were asking, in effect, if this resolution was adopted we would have no public relations or publicity program. I outlined to you for a year what that publicity program did. Now what will you accomplish by this? Are you telling us now again that we don't need a publicity or a public relations program?

Comrade ISAACSON. I am speaking on the question of general privilege and if you are putting the question over to debate I want to present my side of it.

National Commander BURKE. I was recognized by the Chair and I am speaking on the issue. Now, if you don't have a publicity and public relations program, what do you think is going to happen?

We can't carry the story of the DAV to the public as you want to do, so why are you insisting in this colloquy of defeating your own purpose?

Comrade ISAACSON. The comrade commander who just spoke as a delegate, I presume, in answering this question has stated that the

finance committee considered this question, and placed it in the category of a recommendation.

I have read the resolution. It was not a recommendation. The first part of the resolution was perfectly plain to everyone. It was a resolution and it was enacted by a convention, and it mandated the discontinuance of the public relations office in Chicago.

There are some of us who are thoroughly familiar with public relations and we discussed the matter at length. We debated it on the committee and we came to that conclusion.

Now the only point at issue, it isn't the question now of whether or not a good motion was adopted in 1957. And the commander rises as a delegate to speak on a question, isn't asked to speak in that category. I merely ask a question which is germane as to whether or not this convention is as stated in our convention or whether somebody else has a right to overrule the mandates of the convention as evidenced by the manner in which this mandate was disregarded.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Comrade Isaacson, as far as I can tell, the national commander, speaking as a delegate, has explained to you as well or better than I could explain to you, the outcome of that resolution last year.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Point of information, Comrade Commander. Joe Burke didn't speak as a delegate. He spoke and was recognized as the national commander and member of the national finance committee.

Comrade ISAACSON. I am going to let this matter rest, Comrades, but I want to make one closing remark. The constitution of our organization as accepted by Congress states that the action of our convention is supreme. Now, my understanding of supremacy or the word "supreme" means the final; we have nothing higher than the Supreme Court of the United States; we have nothing higher than supremacy. If we are supreme and we enact a resolution—and I don't think there is any question about it being a resolution, because it states plainly that it was—and it is completely disregarded, it occurs to me that all of our actions taken here by way of legislative or parliamentary procedure in the form of motions or otherwise can be completely and contemptuously disregarded.

Comrade JESSE CARL HALL (Alabama, Chapter No. 1). May I ask a question, please? My interpretations of the rules of the convention are that no speaker shall be allowed more than 5 minutes on the floor at any time and without a sizable majority will not be allowed to take the floor the second time. So if we observe those rules of the convention from now on, we will accomplish our goal.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. It is practically 2 o'clock; we have a substitute motion by Millard Rice that the finance and dues committee report be accepted and filed. All those in favor, please stand.

Comrade LEO LALLEY (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). I do not believe that that was the motion by Millard Rice. I believe his motion was that if it were rejected, it would still appear in the minutes of the convention.

Is Millard Rice still in the room? State your motion, including the limbo and all.

Comrade JOHN NOCERA (department commander of Ohio).

I here at this time would like the Chair to ask for the noes on this motion.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Millard Rice, will you state that substitute motion?

Comrade NOCERA. I would like to ask the Chair to ask for the noes on this motion.

National Adjutant CORBLY. A point of order and information. Gentlemen, I presume you want to know what you are doing. The chairman stated a motion. A point of order was called to the Chair by Comrade Lalley, of Massachusetts. His point of order was accepted by the Chair, because the Chair made a mistake in stating the motion. And he asked Millard Rice to repeat his motion for your information before a vote was taken.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. Millard Rice, will you give your motion?

Comrade RICE. I need a little clarification. You first had a motion to adopt? Was that motion accepted or rejected?

National Adjutant CORBLY. It was not voted on. It was voted and the Chair couldn't make a decision.

Comrade RICE. The Chair made no decision about that, I rather understood that the delegates did not want to adopt the motion. So—

National Adjutant CORBLY. No; the Chair did not know what the convention wanted.

Comrade WATTS. Comrades, as the chairman of this committee, I would like to explain to you what happened.

I made a motion to adopt. It was seconded. It was called for by voice vote. The Chairman did not determine whether it was a yea or a nay acceptance.

He decided to call for a standing vote and Millard made a substitute motion and that is the motion that is now on the floor that the delegate down here did not hear and wishes to have restated.

Comrade RICE. That being the case, Mr. Chairman, until the delegates have had an opportunity to decide whether they want to adopt it or not to adopt it, I withdraw the motion.

Comrade WATTS. Now your motion is to adopt the report of the finance and dues committee. I made that motion. It has been made and seconded.

Comrade NOCERA. Nocera, Department of Ohio. I want to remind you that the Chair asked the convention for the yes vote and he did not ask for a no vote. Therefore, the Chair didn't give any decision. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I want to move that the paragraph referring to per capita tax be stricken from the record and be put on the table and that the balance of the report be accepted.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. You have spoken on the original motion. Therefore, you cannot table.

Comrade NOCERA. I thought I made myself clear. That the part of the per capita tax, delete the per capita tax and accept the balance of the report.

Comrade HENRY RIVLIN. Second the motion.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. All those in favor, say aye. Opposed?

The motion to accept the report was carried with the exception of the paragraph pertaining to the per capita tax.

National Commander BURKE (now presiding). The Chair wishes to state the parliamentary condition we find ourselves in at this time. The amendment has taken out reference to the per capita tax. Therefore, that has been stricken. It is now in order to vote on the original motion.

Comrade RICE. In view of the action taken by the convention, I am going to make a motion. In view of the fact that all of this depends on what the convention decides to do about an amendment to the constitution to increase the per capita tax, I move that the question as to what to do about this report be deferred until after a decision be made on the amendments to the constitution.

National Judge Advocate HOFFMANN. Comrade Rice, the convention just voted to strike out of the report of the finance and dues the reference to an increase of per capita tax. It is not there now.

Comrade RICE. What do you mean, it is not there? We still have the right to discuss the amendment.

National Judge Advocate HOFFMAN. The only thing before you now is a motion to adopt the balance of the finance and dues report.

Comrade RICE. What are you striking out exactly?

National Judge Advocate HOFFMAN. Anything that has to do with increase of per capita tax. But it doesn't defeat the bylaw provision which will come up later and we will vote on it.

Comrade RICE. I reserve the right subsequently to bring up this entire question after we have acted on the amendment.

National Judge Advocate HOFFMAN. That will come up anyway in the constitution and bylaws report.

Comrade NOCERA. Mr. Commander, I thought I made it clear about the amendment and acceptance of the balance of the report.

National Commander BURKE. You made it clear to the Chair. The Chair knows that the only thing before us now is whether the finance and dues report be accepted or rejected as amended.

I will pose the question. All those in favor of adopting the report of the dues and finance committee as amended, that means per capita tax reference has been stricken out, therefore, all those in favor of voting to accept the dues and finance report, say aye.

All opposed.

The ayes have it and it is so ordered.

(When put to a vote the motion carried.)

National Commander BURKE. The Chair will declare a recess but not until we have given every committee a vote of thanks for their report.

Comrade LEO LALLEY. Lalley, of Chapter 10, so moves that the committee be discharged with a vote of thanks.

Comrade JOSEPH HAROLD (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). Second the motion.

(When put to a vote, the motion carried.)

National Commander BURKE. The Chair will be glad to recess until 3 o'clock.

(Whereupon, at 2 p. m., the session was recessed until 3 p. m. of the same day.)

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

August 23, 1957

The sixth business session of the Disabled American Veterans' 36th National Convention convened in the grand ballroom, Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., at 3:15 p. m., Friday, August 23, 1957, with First Junior Vice Commander Hietala presiding.

First Junior Vice Commander Hietala. Sergeant at arms, will you please see that our delegates get in the room? Please be seated and we will get the afternoon session going.

At this time we will call on the national Chaplain for the invocation before we enter the business of the afternoon. Will you all rise?

National Chaplain PICKETT. Again we assemble in Thy presence, Kind Father, seeking Thy guidance, Thy direction as Thy children who believe Thy promises, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

First Junior Vice Commander Hietala. At this time we will call on Comrade Franklin Thayer, chairman of the credentials committee who will make his final report. He has to leave in an hour or so, so he wants to give his report.

Comrade FRANKLIN THAYER (credentials committee). My final report for the convention.

I am very happy to report that every chapter that is registered has paid their indebtedness and there will be no chapter ruled out of the privilege of voting because of any indebtedness to the national headquarters.

Again, unless somebody insists upon my wading through this long list of chapters and reporting those chapters who are not registered who do owe some money to national headquarters, I am going to forego that task and I will make the motion that the initial reading of the rollcall be the final report of the credentials committee.

Comrade CLARENCE F. MURPHY (California, Chapter No. 39). Second the motion.

First Junior Vice Commander Hietala. The motion has been made and seconded that the final report of the credentials committee be accepted. All in favor, say aye.

Opposed?

So ordered.

(The motion was put to a vote and carried.)

National Adjutant CORBLY. Commander, I move the credentials committee to be discharged with a vote of thanks.

Comrade BERT FLINT (Wisconsin, Chapter No. 60). Second the motion.

First Junior Vice Commander Hietala. All those in favor, signify by the usual sign. Opposed?

So ordered. The motion is carried.

At this time I will call on the chairman of the constitution and bylaws committee, Comrade Leo DeLapp of California.

Comrade LEO DELAPP (constitution and bylaws committee). Fellow delegates: We, as the constitution and bylaws committee, met at two different times and read your resolutions to the bylaws committee

and came out with one to recommend to you for adoption in the constitution and bylaws.

RESOLUTION No. 415

*Be it resolved*, That article XI, section 6, paragraph 1 (p. 32), is amended to read as follows:

"Paragraph 1. Commencing with the 1958 national convention, and thereafter during each even-numbered year, the delegates from each even-numbered national district, and thereafter during each even-numbered year, shall elect a national executive committeeman and an alternate, whose term of office shall be for 2 years. At such convention the delegates from each odd-numbered district shall elect a committeeman and an alternate, whose term of office shall be for 1 year and, thereafter, during each odd-numbered year, such delegates shall elect a committeeman and an alternate whose term of office shall be for 2 years. The National Blind Veterans chapter shall elect a committeeman and an alternate at each convention whose term of office shall be for 1 year."

Article IX, section 1 (p. 17), is amended by adding at the end thereof: "except as otherwise provided by article XI, section 6, paragraph 1 of these bylaws."

All this does is to change your national executive committeemen to a 2-year term, electing the odd-numbered district committeemen in the off-numbered year and the even-numbered district committeemen in the even-numbered years.

As this was the only one that was brought out of committee for your approval, this will constitute the second reading, and the minority report will follow afterward.

I therefore make a motion that Resolution No. 415 be adopted by this convention and placed in the bylaws.

Comrade FLOYD GROOTHINS (Illinois, Chapter No. 28). I will second the motion.

Comrade CARL NOTTKE (Michigan, Chapter No. 7). What is the reason for changing to 2 years?

Comrade DELAPP. Comrade, the discussion in the committee room was they would have at least that way half the national executive committeemen on the job who were holdovers for 1 year and knew what was going on and could speak with authority, and the information and knowledge that they had carried over from the previous year, and only half the committee that way would be new members. In other words, even part of the top brass is brandnew sometimes on the executive committee. This way you would have at least seven who are back on for the second year and know what it was all about for the previous year.

National Commander BURKE (now presiding). On the question. All those in favor?

All opposed?

The ayes have it. So ordered.

Comrade DELAPP. At this time, Comrade Commander, I will read a resolution from the minority report which I was notified to do.

That is the only one that was adopted, and now I will go into the minority report. I was notified in the committee to bring this before you as a minority report but as not recommended by the constitution and bylaws committee. It was rejected by them, rejected by your constitution and bylaws committee and will now be read as a minority report for the benefit of those who want it read. It is 438. Here it is.

## RESOLUTION No. 438

*Be it resolved*, Article X, finances, section 3, paragraph 1, line 2, that the figure \$1 be stricken out and the figure \$2 be inserted in lieu thereof; be it further

*Resolved*, In line 3, strike out the date July 1, 1944, and insert in lieu thereof July 1, 1958.

This resolution is from the finance and dues committee to the by-laws committee.

This resolution is serious enough to come before the convention so we, the finance and dues committee recommend to the constitution and bylaws committee, for their consideration, the above resolution.

We further recommend provided that out of the increased income thereby obtained the annual salary of each national service officer shall be increased by at least \$200 a year.

Comrade GROOTHIUS (Illinois, Chapter No. 28). Move the adoption of the recommendation of the constitution and bylaws committee with reference to the minority committee report.

National Commander BURKE. You move for its rejection, I understand.

Comrade GROOTHIUS. No; I move for the adoption of the committee's report. The committee's report, as I understand it, was to reject the resolution. I move to adopt the recommendation of the constitution and bylaws committee to reject the minority report.

National Commander BURKE. Do I hear a second?

Comrade PERRY DYE (Washington, Chapter No. 6). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. The report is that they don't want the—

Comrade J. EDWARD THERIAULT (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 45). I was on that committee. I understand in that minority report they were in favor of the addition of the \$1.

National Commander BURKE. They were in favor of the minority report but the point is that the gentleman who rose made a motion that the majority report of the people who rejected the resolution, the motion as proposed by the gentleman on the floor as I understand it, is that they are opposed to the \$1 increase in per capita tax.

Comrade GROOTHIUS. That is my motion.

Comrade THERIAULT. Would you tell the convention assembled what the vote was in committee?

Comrade DELAPP. The vote in the committee was all committee members voting to reject. Your chairman passed because he is a life member.

Past National Commander MILLARD RICE. Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that the way that motion has been put it is a very confusing situation. I have asked for the floor for the purpose of moving the adoption of the proposed amendment to the constitution, then we would know what we are talking about. But now as I understand it this is a motion to reject the minority report.

Comrade DELAPP. Can your chairman of the bylaws committee explain it to you?

Past National Commander RICE. I know what it means but it is confusing to the rest of the delegates.



Comrade DELAPP. I know you know what it means. Can I explain it to the rest of the delegates?

The committee recommended the rejection of this resolution and it went into the minority report and the maker of this motion was to concur with the committee in the rejection of it. That was the maker of the motion.

Past National Commander RICE. Mr. Chairman, I still have the floor, a parliamentary situation arises by reason of that very negative way of doing it because if the convention delegates will vote down this particular motion we will then have another motion to the effect that this proposed amendment be adopted and I submit to you that that is a very negative method of approaching the entire question. And I'd like to call upon the chairman to call the particular motion out of order and then to submit a motion that this be adopted, that the proposed amendment to the constitution be adopted. Then the delegates will have the right to turn that down and they will know what they are voting for.

National Commander BURKE. Let me point something out. We have been arguing about this thing all day. I am now making the ruling, the man who made the motion made a legal motion. He made a motion that the minority report be rejected. And it was seconded. I think it was a clear and concise motion.

Past National Commander RICE. If you consider the motion in order then I wish to have a discussion in opposition to the motion.

National Commander BURKE. That is perfectly all right.

Past National Commander RICE. Very well.

National Commander BURKE. Let the Chair point this out: He was lenient this morning, but I am going to assume the prerogatives of a chairman and watch my watch and if you go over 4 minutes I am going to warn you and I am going to call it at 5, no matter who it is.

Past National Commander RICE. Comrade delegates, I consider the motion now before the floor almost disastrous to the DAV. We are not facing the realities of the situation. Your convention finance committee pointed out that without any change whatsoever in the constitution and if the income be the same and the disbursements the same except for certain lesser income, because of no appropriation next year from the foundation and no increased expense because of the TV show, we run up against a deficit of \$157,000.

On the floor this morning in answer to a question I learned that \$63,000 was an income from the Song-gram contest which was not taken into consideration by the convention finance committee when it doped out the anticipated deficit for next year. That being the case, refiguring it on the basis of the loss of the \$63,000 income there would be a deficit on the basis of the projection of income and expenses of \$220,000.

I am now corrected again, I am sorry, but we got the wrong information this morning. The assistant national adjutant tells me the \$251,000 figure net gross expense on the Song-gram contest was after the \$63,000 income. If that be the case then we did present the right figures. But there would still be a deficit of \$157,000. Now there has to be some realistic way by which to make that up.

I am personally hopeful that it can be done, but it is not being realistic if we face the next 12 months without some constructive pro-

posals to take care of it and I submit to you that if we want to provide adequately for the activities of the organization and any hope for providing increase in the salaries of national service officers, I think we are all in agreement on that, one of the first steps is to increase the per capita tax from \$1 to \$2 per year and I therefore make the motion that this particular motion be tabled.

Comrade GROOTHIUS. I move the question. They are using the national service officers as a political football in this convention.

I made a motion on the previous question. He has no second.

National Commander BURKE. We haven't given him a chance to get that second.

National Adjutant CORBLY. A motion to table is not in order after talking on the subject matter involved.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON (Texas, Buddies Chapter No. 11): Jackson seconds Millard Rice's motion.

National Commander BURKE. It is not in order, P. D.

The motion, I will explain once more, your voting on this motion will be as follows. The proponent of the motion said that he wanted the majority report of the constitution and bylaws committee upheld which says that the \$1 per capita tax will remain the same. I mean the minority report wants it raised. Therefore, the gentleman moved to substantiate the majority and reject the minority report, so a vote against the minority report will keep the \$1 per capita tax in instead of \$2.

Comrade MICHAEL AGRESTA (New Jersey, Chapter No. 9). To get down to my level, if I vote aye on this motion, I reject the \$1 increase. Is that correct?

National Commander BURKE. That is correct.

Comrade AGRESTA. Thank you.

National Commander BURKE. All those in favor, "Aye."

All opposed, "No."

In the opinion of the Chair the ayes have it.

Comrade DELAPP. I now ask for the discharge of the constitution and bylaws committee.

National Adjutant CORBLY. I move you, sir, the constitution and bylaws committee be discharged with a vote of thanks.

Comrade TEX ROSE (California, Chapter No. 58). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. All those in favor?

All opposed?

Carried.

At this time, for the purpose of a presentation which won't take too long, the Blind Veterans Chapter because, as I understand the next committee is time and place, let's give this Blind Veterans Chapter an opportunity to make a presentation.

Comrade JOHN FLORENA (Blind Veterans Chapter). Comrade Commander, it will only take a minute of your time. Set your thermostats back and cool off.

The DAV presented a Miss DAV for this year, and I am very proud and pleased to say that the Blind Veterans National Chapter has their own sweetheart to present to the delegates assembled.

Her father is a life member of the DAV, he is a past chapter commander in Utah and past commander of the Amputees Chapter there. He is currently an adjutant. I present to the convention assembled

following which our senior vice will make a presentation, I want to present to you our Little Sweetheart of the Blind Veterans Chapter, Ellen Fielding from Orem, Utah.

(The convention rose to applaud.)

National Commander BURKE. Is there a member of the foundation present?

Comrade KENNETH P. SLAGLE (Blind Veterans Chapter). Comrade Commander, delegates to the national convention: Some 10 years ago in Las Vegas, Nev. there was a resolution, not mandatory, whereby 1 percent of the Forget-Me-Not fund raised by the chapters in the sale of Forget-Me-Nots be turned over to the Blind Veterans National Chapter. This resolution was sponsored by one, Comrade Claude Bryant, who is unable to be with us at this convention due to physical inactivity. This is the 10-year anniversary of this resolution. In the past, many of the chapters have responded and the Blind Veterans National Chapter are very, very grateful to receive those funds.

As you know we are a scattered group. We have no way to concentrate and raise any fund-raising project. Through this donation of these chapters of the 1 percent Forget-Me-Not we of the Blind Veterans National Chapter are making a donation to the perpetual service officers fund in the amount of \$100. You must remember in the words of that ancient philosophy, the longest journey begins with the first step. This is the first step that the Blind Veterans National Chapter is taking in helping build up this fund and it is with great pleasure that I hand this to Comrade Millard Rice and I hope that every chapter in the United States will help us so we can make bigger and better steps in the building up of this fund.

Past National Commander RICE. Thank you very much, Comrade Slagle. This is very gratifying to me. I am sorry that the Chairman John Golob of the Disabled American Veterans Service Foundation was not here to accept this check.

This took me by surprise at this moment, and I think it is a very splendid symbol that the Blind Veterans think so well of rehabilitation services of the DAV that they have established this perpetual rehabilitation fund of \$100, and I hope that many other units throughout the DAV will follow their excellent example. This is a grassroots idea that deserves your support of our excellent rehabilitation services of the DAV.

Comrade WILLIAM VILLONT (Department of Nebraska). William Villont, Omaha Chapter, No. 2, wishes to pledge \$100 to this fund also.

Comrade SAMUEL A. GRECO (San Diego, Chapter No. 10). \$10 from Chapter 10, San Diego.

National Commander BURKE. Hearing no further, going, going, it is \$210.

The Chair now wishes to inform the convention that the time and place committee is about to make it report.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON (Buddies Chapter No. 11, Texas). I am coming up with \$10 cash to make a donation. It cost Millard 3 days and nights of his counsel on the finance and dues committee.

National Commander BURKE. You know this is an important one also, so simmer down. You have a lot to do.

The Chair at this time takes great pleasure in bringing to the microphone a gentleman from Massachusetts, a good DAV member

from the great State of Massachusetts. I am corrected by my Massachusetts friends, it is "The Commonwealth of Massachusetts."

Comrade LEO LALLEY. Department of Massachusetts DAV.

National Commander BURKE. He is correct, it is the Department of Massachusetts DAV from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Anyway, I will say simply this much, here is a good DAV to give the time and place report. Give him your attention.

Comrade JOSEPH HAROLD (time and place committee). After considering all bids submitted, it was decided that the committee should recommend one of the following cities: Louisville, Ky.; Miami Proper, Fla.; Los Angeles, Calif.

The majority vote of this committee was to recommend that Los Angeles, Calif., should be the convention site in 1958. As this was not a unanimous vote, a minority report recommending Louisville, Ky., for the next convention will be submitted by Mr. Ed Gafford.

Under the rules of the convention, where there is not a unanimous vote, the selection of the convention city must be decided by rollcall.

The committee recommends that the representatives of Louisville and Los Angeles be given 5 minutes each to present their reasons why we should accept their convention bids, and that an additional 5 minutes be allotted for questioning.

Comrade LEONARD L. STEVENS (Maine, Chapter No. 3). I would like to know what happened to the bid made by Cincinnati for our convention this year.

Comrade HAROLD. There was a request that Cincinnati be considered for next year. It was also stated that in the event that we were not able to decide on a convention site of those present or if the delegation should decide that they want to go to Cincinnati, then the convention could go to Cincinnati if the delegation decides it.

Comrade STEVENS. I would like to still have the floor. I think it is only fair to give the representatives of Cincinnati, Ohio, 5 minutes also to present their part of the case.

National Commander BURKE. Does Cincinnati want to present a bid?

Comrade TEX ROSE (California, Chapter No. 58). A point of order.

Comrade ARTHUR KEENE (Florida, Chapter No. 10). Keene from Miami, Fla.—

Comrade ROSE. Thank you, Comrade Commander.

Comrade Commander and comrades, we have just heard a very intelligent report by our time and place committee. It is up to us without wasting any more time. Go to work and whichever convention city gets it we will all be behind it. But let's forget about Cincinnati or Miami or anybody else, there are two convention sites.

National Commander BURKE. You are making a speech, Tex.

Comrade ARTHUR KEENE (Florida, Chapter No. 10). The Florida delegation came up here with an invitation for the convention next year to be held in Miami. Our invitation was presented to the time and place committee. We failed to get the nod. I respectfully ask you, sir, to allow Florida 5 minutes, the same as the other cities, to present our claim.

National Commander BURKE. Does this convention wish to let Cincinnati and Miami speak?

There is no motion before the floor; I have been listening. My first job is to get the report of the convention committee.

Comrade HENRY RIVLIN (Pennsylvania, Chapter No. 22). Comrade Commander, Rivlin, No. 22, moves that we accept the report of the time and place committee and discharge them with the thanks of the convention because we are going into a rollcall vote afterward.

Comrade HERSCHEL S. CATLIN (Arizona, Chapter No. 4). I second that motion.

Comrade LEO LALLEY (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). Speaking on the motion, Comrade Commander.

National Commander BURKE. I have been informed by the judge advocate that I can't accept the report of the convention committee because there is going to be a rollcall.

Each State is permitted to talk for 5 minutes.

Comrade JESSE CARL HALL (Alabama, Chapter No. 1). Hall would like to address a question to Comrade Corbly, our national adjutant, if I may.

The question is, In your opinion how much will the national, the Disabled American Veterans save, by holding the convention in Cincinnati?

National Adjutant CORBLY. Several thousand dollars but I have never figured it out. You would save the expense of all of your staffs' travels and per diem.

Comrade RIVLIN. Point of personal privilege, Comrade Commander.

I believe that that question was out of order, that Cincinnati will be given their time and that item will be included in the 5-minute talk. Any questions of that kind at this time I believe are out of order.

Comrade LEO LALLEY (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). That is what I tried to ask when the motion was made. It seems to me the motion that was made originally by the last gentleman was to accept the report. It seems to me the last speaker when he made his motion made a motion to accept the report of the time and place committee, which only included the cities of Los Angeles and Louisville, Ky.

Now, I understand he is willing to allow Cincinnati and Miami to be considered. Is that true?

National Commander BURKE. This convention, by a majority vote, if it is the will of the convention by majority vote to hear the Cincinnati bid they can do so. And Miami. If they want to listen to bids and vote on Cincinnati and Miami but there will have to be a motion to that effect that they want to accept an invitation from Cincinnati.

Comrade JAMES CLINGNER (Cincinnati, Chapter No. 1). I make a motion we hear what Cincinnati has to offer.

Comrade JESSE CARL HALL (Alabama, Chapter No. 1). Second the motion.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, a point of order and a point of information. I am positive if you will check your rules that you will find in any instance where a rollcall is necessary that then the floor is subject to the desires of the people there. If 10 people want the convention they have the right to present a 5-minute talk the same as if 40 people want to be nominated for national commander. They can be nominated once you call for the roll. In the report you have to have a rollcall. As a consequence you have to listen to the bids from those people who submit it regardless of the report of the committee.

National Commander BURKE. If the people from Los Angeles, Louisville, Cincinnati, and Miami, are here and will come to the platform, we will get the rules of the game going.

National Adjutant CORBLY. While that is going on there has been a call for an eighth district caucus in the foyer back in that corner.

National Commander BURKE. I'd like to have Ted Hietala, Paul Frederick, Dave Williams, Harry Wentworth come up to the platform, too.

The Chair wishes to point out to the convention an understandable thing. These people have waited all week to make their bids. I can't put them onto this microphone until you quiet down so you can hear what the gentlemen from Los Angeles, or speaking in behalf of Los Angeles, and Kentucky, Cincinnati and Miami have to say. So please quiet down.

I want to present to you the department commander of California who will make the presentation for Los Angeles. Remember the rules, a 5-minute talk and they are going to get the stop watch and 5 minutes for questions. Do you understand? Here he is then, Ray Shields, the department commander of California.

Comrade RAY D. SHIELDS (Department of California). Thank you, Commander Burke. Delegates, comrades of this convention. The city of Los Angeles, the city of angels, wishes to welcome all of you to join us in sustaining our bid for the next convention. We all know the city of Los Angeles has much to offer in helping to put on a successful convention there. We feel that we have an ideal climate for veterans because we have many thousands of veterans each month moving to California to make California their permanent home because of this ideal climate.

In the city of Los Angeles we have many fine and wonderful hotels and I am sure I can tell all of you they are fully air conditioned throughout. Right in the main heart of the city we have 3 very large hotels, the Ambassador, Statler, and Biltmore, which could house our entire convention, either one of the 3 hotels. We have rooms that will hold up to 1,500 and the city has assured me there will be ample caucus rooms in the hotel. I think you will find the rates in the hotels considerably less than you will find in Buffalo, and it will be much more convenient for you. We also want to assure you that the chamber of commerce sent me a telegram yesterday assuring us of the services they will render to the convention and we are very confident that we will receive sizable financial contribution from the city to aid us in putting on this convention. As far as the entertainment, we feel we have the best to offer. As you know, Hollywood is just a few minutes' drive from downtown Los Angeles, the movie capital. Hollywood can offer you many sights. We are sure we can take you through a tour of 1 or 2 of the major studios. We also have a beach in a few minutes' drive from downtown Los Angeles.

We have many points of interest in Los Angeles. Those of you who want to bring your family that are not adults, you can enjoy the wonders of Disneyland. We know if you should want to come to California you could spend your whole vacation there, there are many parks.

Also I think you will find that Los Angeles is serviced by four major railroads, by every transcontinental airline. We can assure you that you will have cheap transportation, nonstop flights from Washington,

D. C., Cleveland, Atlanta, Chicago, all are available to Los Angeles International Airport. You will find the transportation to Los Angeles will be as cheap as practically any other State in the United States putting in their bid.

So I want to urge all the delegates here to give their consideration to considering Los Angeles for the 1958 National Convention.

I thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. Now we come to a question period. Comrade CHARLES MERRIFIELD (Kentucky, Chapter No. 6). I would like to know what proof the man has of what he says. Is the chamber of commerce here with him?

Comrade SHIELDS. I have a telegram from the chamber of commerce assuring us these things will be available. I also have a telegram from the business manager of the Statler Hotel confirming the rooms will be available, the meeting halls are available, and caucus rooms are available.

Comrade MERRIFIELD. How about the prices of the rooms, will they be jacked up? How about the transportation?

Comrade TEX ROSE (California, Chapter No. 58). Comrade Commander, I want to make one statement that the time and place committee had the prices with their other invitations, the prices of all the hotels and they can be given to the comrades right here and they can rest assured they won't go up.

National Commander BURKE. Are there any more questions to be asked of the Department Commander? Any more questions?

Hearing none—

Comrade SHIELDS. Thank you, Comrades.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair now recognizes the department adjutant of Kentucky, Ed Gafford, for the city of Louisville, Ky.

Comrade ED GAFFORD (Department adjutant of Kentucky). Comrade Commander, visitors, grassroots and boys behind, and our fine delegates assembled in this convention: To begin with, I am not going to try to sell you the chamber of commerce or the hotels or the swimming pools or anything else in Kentucky. I am going to try to sell you, the Disabled American Veterans, the body to which we belong, something that is good for our organization.

We thought when we left home that we would be faced with a bid placed by Seattle, Wash., last year. We arrive here and we find that Seattle, Wash., no longer desires the convention; 7 years ago at San Francisco, Calif., myself and other members of our Kentucky delegation put up a bid for the convention and we had to concede to Milwaukee, Wis., on the promise of, if we did come to Milwaukee, it would mean to us \$15,000 which they didn't have.

I hope you will erase from your mind any reference to money. We are not going to promise you anything that we can't deliver. We are going to deliver to you what we promise.

I will guarantee that the national service officers at the convention in Louisville will have a private party of their own. No. 2, to this great organization, Brother Trench Rats, I promise you you will have a rendezvous that you will remember for a considerable length of time.

We have come here also back by our civic leaders, the Government of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the chamber of commerce, the hotels. A telegram came from the Governor of Kentucky on the 20th. The telegram was not read from this microphone, I don't know why, but I would like to read this to you.

To National Commander Joseph F. Burke and members of the Disabled American Veterans, Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y. The Commonwealth of Kentucky is delighted to extend to you a warm invitation to hold your 1958 convention in Louisville.

I will not read them, but we have a telegram from the mayor and other people at home.

Now we have done the best we can to show you that we have an honest bid in an endeavor to get you to come to Louisville. Now if you want economy, if that is what you want, to save the national organization some money, we are only about a hundred miles from there. Our hotels have said they will furnish all the free space they need for their meetings, air conditioned. We have a meeting hall that will seat 1,500 people. They have said they will furnish stenographic assistance, anything else that they need.

You will find that Kentucky, Louisville, is 150 miles from the center of population in the United States, assuring us if we should have any members of the DAV, a large attendance. A hospitable city awaits you in Louisville, we know how to be warm and generous in what we have to offer, and we will not leave unturned any stone to make your convention one of the best.

In the words of our deceased beloved Vice President, Senator Alben Barkley, he said, "I had rather be a servant in the house of the Lord than sit on the seat of the mighty," and that is how the Kentucky delegation feels. We do not desire to ascend to the throne of greatness, we want some recognition. Kentucky has made progress over the years to the extent that we now are now recognized as one of the most respected organizations in Kentucky. We intend to do whatever is convenient and necessary to keep that reputation.

Now we have done what we can, we need your help now to finish the job. I am reminded of a little joke. A colored man had a beautiful garden. There was not a weed among his vegetables, the preacher came by and he said, "John, you have a very beautiful garden, you and God."

John said, "You should have seen it when God had it by Himself!" You should have seen Kentucky when God had it. My people went to work in Kentucky. I want you to come and see for yourself.

National Commander BURKE. Five-minute question-and-answer period. Any questions?

Comrade LLOYD B. CAIN (Wisconsin, Chapter No. 9). Comrade Commander, the gentleman from Kentucky might say what he likes about Louisville but I resent the inference to Milwaukee not fulfilling its obligations when we had one of the greatest conventions in DAV history in Milwaukee in 1950. We of the Wisconsin delegation resent the inference.

Comrade GAFFORD. If the gentleman will accept my apology, I shall be delighted to apologize for my ill taste.

Comrade CAIN. I will accept the apology, but—

National Commander BURKE. Any other questions? Anybody got any questions?



All right. The Chair now recognizes, from Miami, Arthur S. Keene, a real oldtimer. He has 5 minutes to talk for Miami.

Comrade ARTHUR KEENE (Florida, Chapter No. 10). This is the second time I have appeared before this convention, not this convention but a convention of the Disabled American Veterans, to present an invitation from Miami. At Kansas City convention our invitation was to Greater Miami, not to Miami proper, but to Greater Miami. They decided to put it in one of the suburbs, Miami Beach. They could have put it in Coral Gables or Hialeah or Coconut Grove. I think you fellows who were there will agree with me that was a wonderful convention we had in Miami Beach 3 or 4 years ago.

The other cities, wonderful towns—I was a delegate to the American Legion at Los Angeles last year, I attended the DAV convention in Louisville in 1941, I think it was, but I want to talk about Miami. Most of you people have been there, maybe not to a convention, but you have been there in the wintertime. It is the 25th city in the United States. It doesn't seem possible to us oldtimers who have lived there for more than a generation that Miami is as large as it is, but only New York and Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, and 20 other towns are bigger than Miami.

We can get the auditorium free, the municipal auditorium in Bay Front Park. It is 5 blocks from McAllister, which will be the headquarters hotel. You will walk 5 blocks, or really only about 4, through the beautiful Bay Front Park, to the auditorium. You read in the Buffalo papers this week a feature article that nearly all the trees and the flowers and the shrubs are from Central and South America. It is a beautiful park.

I am going to tell other things; otherwise it will be asked as a question. We have a dugout of the Trench Rats in Miami, an active dugout, not only a dugout in name, but we actually have a building, and it is a dugout built below the ground level.

The convention we had there before, you fellows stayed in beautiful tourist hotels that in the wintertime would cost you \$30 or \$40 a day; you got it for \$3 and \$4. You know it. I don't need to tell you. You can get hotels in Miami for \$2 up. There won't be any gouging. I haven't got any paper. I gave all my papers to the time and place committee. That included an official invitation from the Department of Florida, a letter from the Governor of Florida, a letter of invitation from the mayor of Miami, a letter from the president of the hotel and apartment-house owners. But I haven't got those papers with me. The time-and-place people have them.

Maybe you have seen some of the beautiful photos we brought up from Miami. It is a beautiful city. You will have a grand time in Miami. You will have one of the best conventions you have ever had, just like the ones we had there 3 or 4 years ago.

I thank you.

National Commander BURKE. Anybody got any questions for Arthur?

Comrade JESSE CARL HALL (Alabama, Chapter No. 1). I would like to ask one question, please. Did I understand the gentleman from Florida as follows: That our committee rooms would be provided us five blocks from the municipal auditorium? Is that correct?

Comrade KEENE. I told you we could get committee rooms in the headquarters hotel for nothing. There are committee rooms in the

auditorium, like around here. Maybe they haven't got as plush upholstered chairs but there are committee rooms in the auditorium. Jack Feighner was down there, Mr. Corbly, and they have seen the auditorium. Since then it has been remodeled, its been air conditioned. Every darn hotel is air conditioned, the auditorium is air conditioned. The auditorium will seat 3,000 people for the DAV; will seat 2,000 for the Auxiliary.

Comrade HALL. Comrade Commander, the point I wanted clarified, would the members attending the convention and serving on convention committees have to travel five blocks back and forth to the committee rooms or would they be centrally located in the municipal auditorium?

Comrade KEENE. If you want to go around, it is a little bit less than five blocks, you cut diagonally through the beautiful parks and it is just about 4 short blocks.

Comrade HALL. We who represent our respective chapters in the States have specific instructions to attend committee meetings and as many of the convention assemblies as possible and those who have long committee meetings only get to sit in on some of the deliberations short periods of time and if that element of 4 or 5 blocks will necessitate a number of committee members staying away from the convention—

National Commander BURKE. Now you are making a speech, not asking questions. When you were asking questions it was all right. Anybody else got a question? When it comes to the question period, ask a question. When the man who is questioned has answered it, please don't go into a speech about his answer. If you ask a question you get an answer, that is the rules of this particular game.

The Chair brings before the microphone at this time to speak in behalf of a convention in Cincinnati, David Williams, of Massachusetts.

Fourth Junior Vice Commander DAVID WILLIAMS. Thank you, Comrade Commander Joe.

Officers and delegates of this convention, I am appearing here at the direction of a caucus of the first district recently held in which unanimously they endorsed the next convention city as Cincinnati, Ohio.

My comrades, there is one very fundamental and basic reason for this. And that is that Cincinnati, Ohio, is the home of the DAV. We have not held a convention in our home city for almost a generation. There have been many changes in the physical plant of our national headquarters since any of you may have visited what we have there. There has been much consternation among the delegates here, much conversation out in the field among the troops, with respect to what is in Cincinnati, how it operates, and so forth. There have been allegations of fur-lined bathtubs, of padded payrolls, and of almost everything that has been presented during the recent Hoffa trials in Washington. And if all of these things are true, my comrades, I want to know it. But if they are not, I should like to be reassured.

Fortunately my circumstances permit me to go to Cincinnati and see for myself. But I recognize that it is only occasionally that the average member of our organization has an opportunity to leave his employment and go on a trip. Many of you are employees of a Government agency which permits you time with pay to attend nationally chartered veteran organizations conventions. It is possible thereby for you to attend a national convention wherever it is. Other corpora-

tions are generous in this regard. And your one vacation a year in many instances is your trip to the national convention.

Now, my comrades, by going to Cincinnati to hold our national convention you will be killing two birds with one stone.

Cincinnati is every bit as good a city as any other city that has presented itself here as we have attended in a number of years. But we do not come to a convention alone to have a good time, to argue the hotel rates and to complain about the weather and many other things. Those complaints are many times justified, but we have to put up with a number of things in the interests of the welfare of the order.

Now in view of the conditions that have prevailed on this floor today and throughout this week—and we may not be through with it yet—it would seem to me the duty and obligation of any delegate here who is interested in the well being of our organization to see for himself just how the national office operates, just how the Idento-Tag factory operates, and just how the whole DAV operation in Cincinnati comes about. The only opportunity that 95 percent of you ever have to go to Cincinnati is if we hold a national convention in that city.

Now, my comrades, there is another very important consideration and that is the financial consideration of the organization. It is folly indeed for me to enlarge upon the fact that we are not a wealthy group. Our organization, though by no means broke, is not overloaded with funds and every time that we can save a dollar here and there, it is a dollar that we can use for the fundamental purposes of our order, the services of the disabled, their widows and their dependents. And we must never forget that is our primary purpose.

It costs \$40,000, my comrades, to move the national headquarters to a convention city. We shall save \$40,000 by holding that convention in Cincinnati. There are four major hotels, including the Sheraton chain. There is a major league ball team in Cincinnati, if they don't move it to New York in the meantime. I don't think they will. There are ample recreation facilities, not only in Cincinnati, Ohio, but in Kentucky across the river. I understand they have some unusual facilities. But above all those things I ask you to keep in mind that Cincinnati is our national headquarters and it is the golden opportunity of your lifetime, probably the only one, to see how the DAV works.

Thank you.

Senior Vice Commander PAUL FREDERICK (now presiding). Now you understand that the question period will extend 5 minutes also.

Comrade ARTHUR GEORGE (California, Chapter No. 70). I want to ask this question. If this can be a precedent, to save \$40,000 as long as we are DAV's or is this to be for this year because we have other cities, we of California have come a long way and our comrades coming from other places, is this going to be just the year of 1958 to save money for the national department, or is this going to be a precedent that goes on from now on?

Thank you.

Comrade WILLIAMS. Thank you. May I answer the query of the comrade from San Diego, Calif.? This is by no means a precedent. This is not solely to save money. This is a critical period in our organization history. It is a dual opportunity to save money and to view our national facilities. Certainly the 1959 convention couldn't be held in Cincinnati and probably wouldn't get a chance to go back

there again for another generation. The purposes of the convention cities is to get distribution around the country about every generation or so. I think we ought to go down and see what is going on in our national headquarters. Believe me, I want to know and I intend to find out.

Comrade **TEX ROSE**. (California, Chapter No. 58). Comrade Williams, thank you, my comrade from Minute Man Concord. I certainly am wondering what happened all of a sudden that the great State of Ohio, with the most top comrades in this convention, had to go to my comrade from my chapter in Massachusetts to make this pitch when they didn't appear before the time and the place.

Comrade **WILLIAMS**. The answer to the question of my comrade from my own chapter, the reason they have asked me to speak at this microphone, I am very flattered by your reference to my oratorical capacity, I hope to justify your confidence in the future, it was the endorsement of the first district that caused me to come to this microphone at this time.

With respect to the second part of your question, the city of Cincinnati did appear before the time and place committee and submitted a bid and they have done so in prior years and on occasions when I have been on that committee.

Comrade **GAFFORD**. Mr. Williams, will you please recognize me as a delegate for one moment?

Point No. 1, it seems rather unusual for a district located so far away from Cincinnati to be trying to promote the convention.

Point No. 2, the seventh district, which consists of Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky, endorsed Kentucky.

Point No. 3, the Kentucky delegation feels there's been a deal made with the national office because I see you have a red cap.

Comrade **WILLIAMS**. If there is any deal made it doesn't have anything to do with this red cap.

The city of Cincinnati does not belong to the seventh district alone. The national headquarters belongs to us in the 1st district, and those in the 11th district, and every other district the same as it does to the 7th district, where it happens to be located. To the DAV the city of Cincinnati is the same as Washington, D. C., is to the United States of America. [Applause.]

I am advised that I have one more question.

Comrade **NOTTKE** (Michigan, Chapter No. 7). I was born in Ohio, I left Ohio when I was 17. I thought we had some people in Ohio that could speak for Ohio but we had to go to Massachusetts.

Senior Vice Commander **FREDERICK**. Are there any other questions?

Comrade **J. E. CROZIER** (Tennessee, Chapter No. 6). The question I would like to ask Comrade Williams, is he trying to fool this convention here that it costs \$40,000 for the national department to go to a national convention? I never heard that kind of sum before.

Comrade **P. D. JACKSON** (Texas, Chapter No. 11). Comrade Commander, I worked 3 days on the finance and dues committee with 14 very fine other gentlemen. The permanent finance committee, last year when we got at the windup at the San Antonio convention, you heard Millard Rice tell we operated in the red. I go along with Mr. Williams. I am from Cincinnati, my headquarters.

Comrade RIVLIN. I rise for a point of personal privilege.

Senior Vice Commander FREDERICK. The longer this commotion goes on you are going to be delayed. Let's tone it down.

Past National Commander HOWARD WATTS. Move the question.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Before I can proceed to the rollcall first we must appoint the judge of elections and tellers for the ballot.

As the judge of elections the commander has appointed Nick Isaacson of Illinois.

For tellers, State Commander Shields of the Department of California, State Adjutant Gafford of the Department of Kentucky, Comrade Keene of Miami, State Adjutant Harold of Massachusetts. If they will come to the platform and get ready, we will start with the rollcall.

Will the judge of elections and tellers come forward? Will somebody from California come forward to tally? Is the judge of elections in the room? (No response.)

James Patten of New Jersey is judge of elections. Jim Patten of New Jersey, judge of elections.

National Commander BURKE (now presiding). All right. Let's not waste time. You are going to have to answer the rollcall. If you want to be heard the only way to be heard is to be quiet.

The adjutant will call the name of the chapter. When the chapter's name is called it will respond and cast its vote, and no speeches, please, just the votes. And then the national adjutant will repeat the vote.

The rollcall will proceed if you will keep quiet.  
(Rollcall vote was as follows:)

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
ALABAMA								
1	Tuscaloosa	R	5	176			5	
2	Albertville		2	43				
3	Lizard State		1	19				
4	Birmingham	R	9	420			9	
6	Foley		2	39				
7	Mobile	R	6	239			6	
8	Demopolis		1	15				
10	Russellville		13	607				
11	Decatur		2	69				
12	Montgomery	R	3	116				
13	Alexander City		1	22				
14	Gadsden		1	24				
17	Floral		1	14				
22	Fort Payne		1	16				
24	Anniston		2	37				
26	Huntsville		5	201				
33	Clanton		1	25				
35	Andalusia		2	36				
37	Selma	R	3	107			3	
38	Pritchard		4	150				
40	Eufaula		1	19				
42	Tuskegee		1	10				
43	Montgomery		1	25				
44	Seant City		2	49				
46	Fairhope		1	8				
47	Mobile, Harry Pake		1	13				
49	Selma		3	105				
51	Athens		2	51			2	
53	Bay Minette	R	1	13				
54	Grove Hill		1	13				
55	Northport	R	2	71			2	
57	Atmore		1	16				
58	Wagarville		1	19				
59	Evergreen		1	22				
	Department of Alabama	R	1				1	

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
ARIZONA								
1	Phoenix	R	14	654	14			
2	Tucson, Cactus	R	9	397	9			
3	Whipple		3	102				
4	Tucson	R	6	233	6			
6	Oase Grande		1	21				
8	Mesa		2	26				
14	Siera Vista		3	102				
16	Prescott		1	15				
17	Wickenburg		1	11				
18	Tucson		3	77				
	Department of Arizona	R	1		1			
ARKANSAS								
1	Fort Smith		2	68				
2	Pine Bluff		2	59				
3	Fayetteville		2	27				
4	Bear State		1	19				
5	Hot Springs		2	51				
6	Harrison	R	3	102	3			
7	Little Rock	R	13	580		13		
8	Nashville		3	114				
10	Conway		2	63				
12	Pine Bluff		1	10				
13	Morrilton		6	261				
15	Rogers		1	16				
16	Springdale		1	8				
17	North Little Rock		2	52				
19	Heber Springs		2	24				
20	West Helena		2	40				
22	Biscoe		1	10				
23	Berryville		3	119				
24	Paragould		2	30				
25	Clarksville		1	20				
26	Jonesboro		2	53				
27	Russellville		1	14				
28	Gurdon		1	24				
29	Malvern		1	16				
30	Mt. Home		2	39				
31	De Witt		1	20				
32	Batesville		1	17				
33	Camden		2	39				
	Department of Arkansas	R	1				1	
CALIFORNIA								
1	Fresno	R	7	303	7			
2	San Diego		15	700				
3	San Francisco	R	24	1,137	24			
4	Eureka		2	39				
5	Los Angeles	R	16	727	16			
6	Sacramento		7	283				
7	Oakland		13	576				
8	Alameda		2	48				
9	Pomona		2	64				
10	Los Angeles	R	10	445	10			
11	San Jose	R	10	441	10			
12	San Bernardino		3	83				
13	San Fernando, Kearney		3	367				
14	Napa County Veterans' Home		4	132				
15	Stockton	R	7	277	7			
16	Redwood City		4	163				
17	Long Beach	R	12	573	12			
18	Los Angeles, Carver	R	2	49				
20	Bakersfield	R	6	269	6			
21	Vallejo		3	79				
22	Alhambra		4	159				
23	Santa Ana		5	199				
24	Ventura		2	59				
25	Berkeley		2	34				
26	Modesto		3	76				
27	Ontario		2	42				
28	Riverside		4	126				
29	Pasadena		4	134				
30	Inglewood		3	77				
31	Watsonville		7					
32	Compton	R	3	80	3			
33	Glendale	R	8	347	8			
34	Hayward	R	2	31				
35	Fort Bragg		1	6				
36	Santa Monica		3	102				
37	Santa Barbara		2	52				
38	Altadena		1	15				
39	Huntington Park	R	4	138				
40	Burbank		5	212				
41	Tujunga		1	16				

No.	Chapter	Dele- gates	Vote	Mem- bers	Los Angeles	Cincin- nati	Louis- ville	Miami
CALIFORNIA—continued								
42	Florence		2	36				
43	San Pedro		2	74				
45	San Luis Obispo		2	30				
46	Whittier		2	60				
47	Menlo Park		3	114				
48	Santa Rosa		2	65				
49	Hollywood	R	5	183	5			
50	Los Angeles, downtown		4	132				
51	Escondido		1	22				
52	Santa Cruz		2	68				
53	Corona		1	13				
54	Van Nuys, Reseda	R	4	166	4			
55	Monrovia		2	49				
56	Golden State		4	143				
57	East Los Angeles		1	22				
58	Los Angeles, Bates	R	3	104	3			
59	Lodi		2	30				
60	Twentynine Palms		2	28				
61	Los Angeles, Castle		2	28				
63	Placerville		2	30				
64	El Monte		2	65				
65	San Francisco	R	3	117	3			
66	Palm Springs		2	28				
67	San Leandro		1	13				
69	San Francisco		1	25				
70	Greater San Diego	R	3	106	3			
71	Oroville		2	42				
73	Van Nuys, Birmingham		2	227				
74	Spring Valley		2	46				
75	San Francisco, Golden		2	44				
76	Richmond		2	44				
77	Livermore		2	56				
78	Los Angeles County		2	31				
79	Novato		1	11				
80	Pacifica, North Hollywood		2	38				
81	Suisun		2	46				
82	Santa Maria		2	26				
83	Sun Valley		3	113				
84	Vacaville		1	13				
85	Monterey		2	32				
86	Lynwood		4	48				
87	Fontana		4	135				
88	Brawley		1	15				
89	Calistoga		1	17				
92	South Bay, Torrance		2	52				
94	Fullerton		2	32				
95	Oceanside		2	31				
97	Tulare		2	47				
98	Bellflower		3	96				
99	Oxnard		2	38				
100	Los Angeles, Nisel		3	117				
101	Salinas		2	37				
103	San Rafael		2	34				
108	Los Angeles Post Office		3	105				
110	Los Angeles, Highland		1	25				
111	Orange		2	50				
114	East San Jose		1	10				
122	Grass Valley		1	21				
123	Culver City, Women's		1	20				
124	Marysville		1	10				
125	Chico		2	33				
127	Colton		2	41				
131	Woodland		1	16				
132	Napa		2	42				
134	Oakland, J. E. Bruce		1	15				
135	China Lake	R	2	56	2			
136	Redwood City		2	75				
137	Fresno		2	17				
138	Crescenta, Canada		2	52				
140	Reedley		1	15				
141	Culver City	R	5	217	5			
142	Santa Paula		1	9				
143	Hollywood		1	13				
144	San Francisco		4	141				
145	West Los Angeles		1	19				
147	San Francisco		2	40				
148	San Jose		2	55				
149	Los Gatos		1	18				
150	Monterey Park		2	61				
154	Concord		2	42				
155	Benicia		2	33				
	Department of California	R	1			1		

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
COLORADO								
1	Colorado Springs.....		8	357				
2	Pueblo.....		6	259				
5	Fort Collins.....		3	86				
6	Las Animas.....		1	13				
7	Denver.....	R	70	3,427	70			
8	Greeley.....		4	128				
9	Grand Junction.....		4	160				
10	Boulder.....		2	54				
11	Denver, S. L. Brown.....		4	154				
12	Canon City.....		4	163				
13	Silver State.....		4	49				
15	Trinidad.....		3	62				
17	Montrose.....		3	100				
18	Englewood.....		4	164				
19	La Junta.....		2	36				
22	Arvada.....		8	325				
24	Lamar.....		2	34				
26	Colorado Springs, Knob Hill.....	R	2	41	2			
30	Salida.....		1	24				
32	Loveland.....		3	80				
39	Pueblo, Steel City.....		3	105				
41	Fort Morgan.....		1	16				
44	Durango.....		2	27				
	Department of Colorado.....	R	1		1			
CONNECTICUT								
1	Nut Meg State.....		1	12				
2	New Haven.....	R	7	278				
3	Bridgeport.....	R	3	116			3	
4	Derby.....		2	31				
5	Bristol.....	R	2	235			6	
6	Meriden.....	R	6	182			5	
7	Middletown.....	R	3	77				
8	New Britain.....		5	204				
9	Waterbury.....	R	7	321			7	
10	East Norwich.....		1	12				
11	Union City.....		2	26				
12	Hartford.....	R	13	593			13	
13	Stamford.....		2	32				
14	Seymour.....	R	1	21			1	
15	Milford.....		1	8				
16	Ansonia.....		3	80				
17	Manchester.....		2	37				
18	West Haven.....	R		102			3	
20	Stratford.....		3	87				
21	New London.....		4	146				
23	Danbury.....		4	126				
26	Norwalk.....		2	71				
30	Hamden.....		2	72				
31	New Haven.....		3	78				
39	Willimantic.....		2	46				
40	Branford.....		1	21				
43	East Haven.....		1	17				
	Department of Connecticut.....	R	1				1	
DELAWARE								
1	Wilmington.....		1	7				
3	Wilmington, C. Rodney.....		5	176				
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA								
1	Federal.....	R	12	572		3	9	
2	National Capitol.....		2	55				
3	Colonel Young.....		2	68				
4	King Clark.....	R	4	167	4			
5	Rea.....	R	3	90			3	
7	Interior.....		3	37				
9	National Service.....	R	7	314			7	
12	Agriculture.....		1	9				
14	Dorrie Miller.....		1	21				
16	Capitol Hill.....	R	8	340			8	
	Department of the District of Columbia.....	R	1		1			
FLORIDA								
1	Jacksonville.....	R	6	267	6			
2	Everglade State.....		2	46				
3	Sarasota.....	R	3	87				3
4	Tampa.....	R	11	485				11



No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
FLORIDA—continued								
5	Miami		1	15				
6	Daytona Beach		4	169				
7	Jacksonville		1	13				
8	Tallahassee		1	21				
9	St. Petersburg	R	8	336				
10	Miami	R	4	151				4
11	Clearwater	R	3	124				
12	South Dade		4	127				
13	Bay Pines	R	4	163				4
14	Fort Pierce		1	17				
16	Orlando	R	3	102				3
17	Panama City		2	75				
18	Bradenton		2	74				
19	Lake Worth		2	41				
20	Lake City		1	12				
21	Jacksonville, Beverly Hills		1	16				
22	Marianna		1	14				
23	Pensacola	R	6	227				6
25	Tampa, Sulphur Springs		2	45				
26	Milton		1	11				
27	Miami Beach		2	60				
28	Lakeland	R	2	62				2
29	Jacksonville Beach		1	13				
30	Sanford		2	55				
32	Melbourne		1	13				
34	Vero Beach		2	42				
36	Green Cove Springs		1	10				
37	Leesburg		1	10				
39	Miami, Sgt. D. W. Mullin		2	58				
40	Fort Lauderdale		4	161				
41	Hollywood	R	3	112				
42	West Palm Beach		3	79				
43	Hialeah		7	325				
46	Gulfport		2	38				
48	Tarpon Springs		1	19				
50	Cocoa		2	29				
51	North Miami		2	48				
52	Kissimmee		1	24				
53	New Smyrna		2	34				
54	Daytona Beach		1	16				
56	Palatka		1	13				
57	Crestview		1	13				
59	Dade City		2	64				
61	West Palm Beach		1	12				
62	Haines City		1	25				
64	Plant City		2	44				
65	Zephyrhills		1	24				
66	Fort Lauderdale		1	12				
67	Brooksville		1	13				
68	Bushnell		1	15				
69	Leisure City		1	15				
	Department of Florida	R	1					1
GEORGIA								
1	Atlanta	R	7	311		7		
2	Athens		2	29				
3	Cordele		3	79				
4	Milledgeville		2	40				
5	Toccoa		2	32				
6	Marietta	R	2	55			2	
7	Columbus		6	251				
8	Savannah		5	219				
9	Macon	R	4	163		4		
10	Augusta		2	61				
11	Blairville		2	54				
12	Lawrenceville		1	12				
14	Valdosta		2	45				
15	Gainesville	R	2	35			1	
16	Moultrie		3	113				
19	Nashville		1	19				
20	Cracker State		1	21				
21	Conyers	R	1	22			1	
22	Gainesville	R	2	59		2		
23	Douglas		2	42				
25	Decatur		2	49				
28	Atlanta, M. Nicholes	R	2	71			2	
29	Norman Park		1	23				
31	LaGrande		1	24				
33	Warner Robins		3	91				
35	Atlanta		1	22				
39	Brunswick		1	15				
40	Thomasville	R	2	59			2	

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
<b>GEORGIA—continued</b>								
42	Savannah		1	25				
44	Columbus	R	6	241		6		
45	Atlanta	R	2	88		2		
47	Albany		2	55				
50	Macon		2	29				
	Department of Georgia	R	1			1		
<b>HAWAII</b>								
1	Oahu, Honolulu	R	9	409	9			
2	Maui		3	107				
3	Honolulu		2	53				
4	Wahiawa		2	49				
5	Kaui		2	64				
6	Hilo		2	32				
7	Kona		2	27				
8	Oahu Island		1	28				
	Department of Hawaii	R	1		1			
<b>IDAHO</b>								
1	Caldwell		1	10				
2	Boise	R	6	231	6			
3	Pocatello		3	101				
4	Emmett		1	9				
5	Twin Falls		3	84				
6	Idaho Falls		2	65				
8	Gem State	R	2	27	2			
9	Coeur D'Alene		3	85				
10	Burley		1	25				
11	Wilder		2	35				
13	Nampa		2	32				
14	Montpelior		1	13				
16	Wallace		2	42				
	Department of Idaho	R	1					
<b>ILLINOIS</b>								
1	Peoria	R	11	482	11			
2	Chicago	R	9	412			9	
3	Alton		2	74				
4	Chicago, Woodrow Wilson		15	686				
5	Chicago, Chateau Thierry		2	45				
6	Chicago, J. H. Patton		4	163				
7	Effingham		2	36				
8	Urbana	R	4	166			4	
9	Moline		2	62				
10	Chicago, Robert Grant	R	5	214			5	
11	Joliet		4	144				
12	Evanston		2	87				
13	Chicago, George Dilboy		5	65				
14	Prairie State	R	3	201				
15	Springfield		10	477				
16	Waukegan		2	60				
17	Decatur	R	2	31			2	
18	Danville		5	184				
19	Aurora		3	93				
20	Flora		2	29				
21	Metropolis		1	10				
22	Cicero	R	6	262			6	
24	East St. Louis		5	215				
25	Chicago, South Towns	R	6	256				
26	Elorado		2	36				
27	Oak Park		1	20				
28	Mount Vernon	R	1	97			3	
29	Rockford		3	50				
30	Mattoon		2	46				
32	Quincy		1	20				
33	Chicago, Verdun	R	4	134			4	
34	Kankakee	R	4	150			4	
35	De Kalb		1	10				
36	Chicago, White Eagle		4	131				
38	Chicago, Northwest		4	163				
39	Chicago, Pearl Harbor		1	20				
40	Chicago, Logan Square		4	152				
41	Newton		1	18				
42	Chicago, Unknown Soldier		1	24				
43	Chicago, Southwest		2	46				
44	Chicago, Flynn Marum		2	74				
45	Chicago, Uptown		3	90				
46	Chicago, Southeast	R	3	89	3			
47	Chicago, Business and Professional	R	6	212	5			
53	Granite City	R	5	340			8	
54	Elgin		3	85				

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
ILLINOIS—Continued								
55	Chicago Heights		2	26				
56	Pana		2	40				
58	Ottawa		1	20				
60	Bloomington		2	27				
62	Carmi	R	3	89				
63	Olney		3	77				
65	Vandalia		1	25				
69	Murphysboro		2	32				
71	Marion		2	34				
74	Maywood	R	2	42	2			
75	Chicago		2	36				
76	Centralia		1	24				
77	Galesburg		2	41				
78	Chester		2	51				
	Department of Illinois	R	1					
INDIANA								
1	Fort Wayne	R	10	453			10	
2	Bedford		2	50				
3	Indianapolis, Worthington	R	11	516			11	
4	Valparaiso		2	26				
5	Marion		2	40				
6	South Bend	R	25	1,200			25	
7	Evansville, Gresham	R	8	356			8	
8	Richmond		3	94				
9	Terre Haute	R	9	404			9	
10	Vincennes		2	30				
11	Bloomington		3	99				
12	Anderson	R	3	116			3	
13	Hoosier State		4	131				
14	French Lick		2	38				
15	Goshen		2	55				
16	New Albany		3	114				
17	Hammond		3	110				
18	Princeton		3	165				
19	Elkhart	R	5	173			5	
20	Orleans		3	76				
21	Gary		3	354				
22	Batesville		1	17				
23	Michigan City		4	140				
24	Portland		3	100				
25	Muncie		2	61				
26	Gary		1	10				
27	Lafayette		3	82				
28	Kokomo		1	21				
29	Peru		1	13				
30	Petersburg		6	257				
31	Columbus		1	23				
32	New Castle		1	17				
33	Crawfordsville		1	10				
35	Wabash		2	31				
36	Mount Vernon		2	87				
37	Loogootee		3	21				
38	Frankfort		1	21				
39	South Bend, White Eagle	R	2	53			2	
40	Fort Wayne		2	69				
42	Plymouth		1	12				
44	Huntington		2	39				
45	Westport		1	10				
46	Washington		2	26				
49	Kendallville		2	48				
50	Warsaw		1	9				
52	Indianapolis	R	4	154			4	
53	Logansport		2	59				
54	Bluffton		2	28				
55	Madison		2	43				
56	Monticello		1	20				
58	Winchester		2	32				
64	Connersville		1	18				
67	Hartford City		4	130				
72	Salem		2	70				
73	Seymour		1	9				
75	Lawrenceburg		2	57				
77	Jasper		3	83				
78	Boonville		3	120				
79	Brazil		1	24				
80	Crown Point		1	19				
83	Green Castle		1	25				
85	Tall City	R	3	84				
88	Morocco		2	58				
89	Noblesville		2	33				

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
INDIANA—continued								
90	Brookville		2	62				
91	Decatur, Adams County	R	4	147			4	
94	English		2	39				
96	Elkhart		2	34				
99	Bloomfield		2	37				
	Department of Indiana	R	1				1	
IOWA								
1	Ottumwa		2	56				
2	Davenport	R	3	119			3	
3	Fort Madison		2	32				
4	Burlington		4	145				
5	Council Bluffs		5	180				
6	Dubuque		3	112				
7	Marshalltown		2	62				
8	Decorah		2	61				
9	Clinton		2	59				
10	Cedar Rapids	R	4	161			4	
11	Waterloo	R	6	248				
12	Keokuk		4	135				
14	Webster City		2	26				
15	Knoxville		2	32				
16	Cherokee		1	9				
17	Oelwein		3	97				
18	Hawkeye State		2	53				
19	Iowa City		2	71				
20	Des Moines	R	10	467	5		5	
21	Oskaloosa		4	157				
22	Clarion		1	24				
23	Newton		1	22				
25	Muscatine		1	7				
26	Hampton		2	53				
27	Mason City		5	181				
29	Fort Dodge		3	109				
31	Boone		1	12				
32	Cedar Falls		5	156				
33	Storm Lake		3	88				
35	Creston		1	12				
36	Atlantic		2	39				
37	Albia		2	28				
42	Carroll		2	28				
46	Eldora		1	12				
52	Fairfield		1	11				
53	Des Moines	R	2	38				
54	Sioux City		3	82				
55	Jefferson		1	14				
	Department of Iowa	R	1		1			
KANSAS								
1	Kansas City		6	230				
2	Pittsburgh		3	108				
3	Topeka	R	2	66	2			
4	Wichita		5	188				
6	Parsons		2	49				
7	Fort Scott		2	71				
8	Leavenworth		1	15				
9	Eureka		2	37				
10	El Dorado	R	2	34				
11	Hutchinson		1	22				
12	Salina		2	46				
13	Sunflower State	R	1	24	1			
15	Dodge City		2	49				
16	Independence		2	36				
17	Junction City		1	7				
20	Liberal		1	18				
22	Marysville		2	55				
23	Lawrence		1	22				
24	Kansington		1	12				
25	McPherson		1	21				
32	Chanute		1	22				
33	Atchison		1	24				
	Coffeyville		1	23				
	Department of Kansas	R	1		1			
KENTUCKY								
1	Lexington		4	167				
2	Ashland		2	33				
3	Elizabethtown		1	19				
4	Owensboro		1	23				
5	Bowling Green		1	74				
6	Louisville	R	2	399			9	

No.	Chapter	Dele-gates	Vote	Mem-bers	Los Angeles	Cincin-nati	Louis-ville	Miami
KENTUCKY—continued								
7	Paducah		3	99				
8	Hopkinsville		3	351				
9	Outwood	R	3	111			3	
10	Tompkinsville		1	14				
11	Beaver Dam		2	62				
12	Danville		1	21				
14	Cynthiana		3	101				
18	Paintsville	R	4	172			4	
19	Covington	R	3	106			3	
20	Glasgow		3	91				
22	Corbin		4	154				
23	Corncracker State		2	35				
26	Falmouth		2	36				
28	Sturgis		2	34				
32	Brownsville		1	32				
34	Frankfort	R	2	43			2	
37	Newport		2	59				
41	Liberty	R	3	77			3	
42	Kings Mountain		2	59				
44	Princeton		2	64				
45	Russellville		2	68				
47	Somerset		2	33				
48	Mount Vernon		2	33				
49	Junction City		2	47				
50	Murray		1	19				
54	Harrodsburg		3	114				
55	Richmond		3	119				
57	Maysville		5	178				
60	Central City		2	70				
63	Harlan		1	12				
64	Hazard		1	15				
66	London		1	13				
70	Campbellsville		2	34				
72	Columbia		2	52				
73	Albany		1	18				
74	Edmonton		1	8				
81	Beattyville		1	25				
83	Horse Cave		1	12				
87	Warsaw		1	12				
89	Louisville	R	4	155			4	
92	Louisa		3	104				
93	Science Hill		1	11				
98	Latonia	R	1	12			1	
101	Brandenburg		1	11				
103	Stanton		1	30				
105	Monticello		2	43				
106	Mayfield		2	59				
108	Louisville		4	128				
111	Bardwell		2	54				
112	Springfield		2	49				
114	Barbourville		2	37				
115	Carrollton		2	36				
116	Highland Heights		2	30				
	Department of Kentucky	R	1				1	
LOUISIANA								
1	New Orleans	R	3	76			3	
2	Lafayette		4	143				
3	New Iberia		2	53				
5	Baton Rouge	R	3	95			3	
6	New Orleans, Chesney	R	3	103			3	
8	Monroe		1	11				
9	Shreveport, Simmons		3	100				
10	New Orleans	R	7	319		7		
11	Cresole State		2	42				
13	New Orleans, B. J. Daly		4	144				
14	Thibodaux		1	23				
17	Lake Charles		2	72				
22	Baton Rouge, Thompson		1	23				
26	New Orleans, Carriere		1	20				
27	New Orleans, G. Slavich	R	4	167			4	
28	Ringgold		1	9				
30	Shreveport	R	3	112				
31	Morrero		2	29				
32	Bogalusa		2	27				
33	Metairie		2	63				
34	Houma		1	14				
35	Algiers		1	16				
36	Chalmette	R	2	75			2	
	Department of Louisiana	R	1				1	

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
MAINE								
1	Togus	R	5	289				
2	Pine Tree State		1	13				
3	Portland	R	6	261		6		
4	Biddeford	R	3	86		3		
4	Bangor		2	52				
8	Waterville		1	16				
9	Van Buren		1	9				
10	Presque Isle	R	2	60		2		
11	Lewiston		2	42				
	Department of Maine	R	1			1		
MARYLAND								
1	Baltimore	R	12	528			12	
2	Cumberland		2	47				
3	Annapolis	R	2	53			2	
4	Silver Spring		3	89				
5	Frederick		3	76				
6	Old Line State		1	21				
7	Takoma Park		1	20				
8	Baltimore, A. Adams		1	9				
9	Braddock		2	32				
10	Beth-Chevy-Chase		2	30				
13	Glen Burnie		2	28				
14	Hagerstown		1	24				
15	Havre De Grace		2	75				
16	Baltimore, Free State		5	202				
17	Suitland		1	20				
18	Cambridge		1	12				
19	Salisbury		2	75				
21	Dundalk		3	95				
22	Westminster		1	23				
23	Hyattsville	R	3	85			3	
24	Baltimore, Boasi	R	2	50			2	
25	Baltimore, L. M.		2	30				
27	Oriole, Baltimore		2	38				
29	Elkton		1	23				
30	Bel Air		1	20				
31	Friendsville		1	20				
	Department of Maryland	R	1				1	
MASSACHUSETTS								
1	Bay State	R	4	142		4		
2	Lawrence	R	5	218		5		
3	West Roxbury	R	2	66		2		
4	Worcester	R	10	487		10		
5	Hyde Park		3	77				
6	Milford	R	4	165		4		
7	New Bedford	R	5	192		5		
8	Framingham	R	6	231		6		
9	Fall River		3	94				
10	Boston	R	26	1,226			26	
11	Brookline		2	55				
12	Rutland Heights	R	2	64		2		
13	Dorchester	R	4	139		4		
14	Watertown		3	108				
15	Revere		2	75				
16	Cambridge	R	3	114		3		
17	Boston, Navy Yard	R	17	799			17	
18	Andover		2	35				
19	Chicopee	R	2	54				
20	Haverhill	R	5	192		5		
21	Medford	R	6	266		6		
22	South Boston	R	5	196		5		
23	Newton	R	3	106		3		
24	Leominster	R	5	206		5		
25	Lowell	R	5	223		5		
26	Pittsfield		1	12				
27	Somerville	R	10	467		10		
28	Concord	R	2	64				
29	Braintree	R	3	114		3		
30	Fitchburg	R	4	142		4		
31	Roxbury, Connery	R	2	27				
32	Brockton	R	3	80				
33	Greenfield		1	24				
34	South Boston	R	3	83				
36	Weymouth		1	6				
40	Newburyport	R	8	354			8	
44	Greater Boston	R	15	687		15		
45	Waltham	R	4	169		4		
46	Athol		3	94				
49	Arlington	R	2	85		2		

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
MASSACHUSETTS—continued								
51	Everett	R	4	144				
52	Boston, Employees		2	34		4		
53	Webster	R	4	127				
57	Taunton	R	4	88		4		
59	Malden	R	3	40		3		
62	Chelsea	R	2	69		2		
64	Lynn		2	138				
65	Weymouth, Talbot		2	27				
66	Roxbury		1	20				
67	Boston, Women's Veterans	R	1	21		1		
68	Springfield	R	5	178				
69	Amesbury		2	56				
71	Charlestown	R	1	15		1		
72	Franklin		2	34				
73	Brighton		2	50				
74	Gloucester	R	3	87		3		
75	Melrose		1	11				
76	Brockton	R	6	246		6		
77	East Boston		2	43				
78	Jamaica Plain	R	4	145				
79	Quincy	R	2	71		4		
82	Marlboro	R	4	134		2		
83	Methuen		2	39		4		
84	Salem		3	85				
85	Malden		2	74				
88	Woburn	R	2	54		2		
89	Boston	R	4	145				
90	Norwood	R	5	180		5		
91	Winthrop		2	64				
93	Dorchester, Green	R	4	126		4		
94	Ludlow	R	2	52		2		
96	Hyannis	R	3	123				
97	North Quincy, Cavanagh	R	3	118		3		
99	Hull		2	74				
100	Peabody	R	4	164		4		
101	Southbridge	R	3	88		3		
102	Boston, All Life		3	90				
103	Worcester		2	26				
104	Milton		1	13				
105	New Bedford	R	4	139				
106	Wilmington	R	3	82			3	
107	Stoneham		2	61				
108	Mansfield		1	23				
109	Charlestown, Cleary	R	2	36		2		
110	Tewksbury	R	2	37		2		
112	Revere		2	52				
113	Burlington		2	27				
114	Natick		2	50				
115	Saugus		2	28				
116	Whitinsville	R	2	69			2	
117	Canton		1	22				
	Department of Massachusetts	R	1			1		
MICHIGAN								
1	Detroit	R	38	1,853	38			
2	Grand Rapids, S. Smith	R	17	781	17			
3	Flint	R	8	372	8			
4	Saginaw		7	289				
5	Detroit, Rankin	R	17	792	17			
6	Kalamazoo, Crosby	R	6	244	6			
7	Battle Creek	R	5	224	5			
8	Lansing, Capitol		6	258				
9	Bay City, King, Jr.	R	13	614	13			
10	Jackson, William Sparks		6	236				
11	Muskegon, Wood		7	325				
12	Port Huron		6	241				
13	Ann Arbor		5	205				
14	Holland		5	223				
15	Coldwater		4	131				
16	Pontiac		6	271				
17	Benton Harbor		7	319				
18	Big Rapids		3	81				
19	Royal Oak	R	11	493	11			
20	Adrian		3	118				
22	Marquette		2	51				
23	Iron Mountain		5	220				
24	Escanaba		3	119				
25	Menominee, Twin City		2	100				
26	Manistique		2	61				
27	Houghton		4	134				

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
MICHIGAN—continued								
29	Ionia.....	R	2	56	2			
30	Ludington.....		3	101				
31	Petoskey.....		2	61				
32	Gratiot.....		2	54				
33	Wolverine State.....		3	101				
36	Allegan.....		2	34				
38	Traverse City.....		4	132				
39	Cadillac.....		3	124				
40	Detroit, E. Thomas.....		4	139				
41	Mount Pleasant.....		1	19				
42	Dundee.....		2	30				
43	Manistee.....		4	142				
44	Mount Clemens.....		3	98				
45	Detroit, M. King, Jr.....		6	246				
46	Detroit, J. N. Keane.....	R	12	534			12	
48	Fremont.....		2	140				
50	Gagetown.....		2	27				
51	Dearborn, Gray.....		6	245				
52	Sault Ste. Marie.....		4	151				
53	Hazel Park.....		3	108				
54	Bad Axe.....		3	108				
55	Niles.....		3	97				
56	Three Rivers.....		2	62				
57	South Haven.....		2	45				
58	Barry County.....		1	21				
59	Oceana.....		2	63				
60	Detroit, Eastside.....	R	10	462			10	
61	Alpena.....		5	198				
62	Wyandotte.....		3	92				
63	Owosso.....		2	41				
64	Clinton County.....		3	122				
66	Marshall.....		2	51				
66	Ironwood.....		2	56				
67	Iron River.....		2	29				
68	Hillsdale.....		2	46				
69	Munising.....		3	76				
70	Howell.....		1	9				
71	Mason.....		1	13				
73	West Branch.....		2	43				
74	Ishpeming.....		2	46				
76	Sandusky, Sanilac.....		2	33				
76	L'Anse.....	R	2	37		2		
77	Gladwin.....		1	16				
78	Lapeer.....		1	14				
79	Monroe.....		5	193				
80	Lakeview.....		1	11				
81	Monawk.....		1	15				
83	Detroit, C. Hamtramck.....		4	159				
84	Detroit-Highland Park.....		3	90				
85	Detroit, Redford.....	R	9	393			9	
86	Detroit, A. Martin.....		3	107				
87	Paw Paw.....		2	55				
88	Sturgis.....		2	56				
90	Cheboygan.....		4	155				
91	Ontonagon.....		2	50				
92	Lincoln.....		2	26				
93	St. Ignace.....		1	11				
94	Midland.....		2	29				
95	Newberry.....		1	10				
96	Detroit, Malish.....		2	40				
97	Hartwick Pines.....		1	8				
98	Gaylord.....		1	23				
101	Fontiac.....		4	161				
102	Trenton.....		2	72				
103	Muskegon.....		3	90				
104	Crystal Falls.....		1	16				
105	Jackson.....		3	107				
106	Belding.....		3	100				
107	East Detroit.....		3	118				
108	Ewen.....		2	32				
109	Detroit.....		2	66				
110	Grand Rapids.....		7	309				
111	Allen Park.....		3	105				
112	Dearborn.....	R	3	120				
113	Detroit.....		4	141				
114	Livonia.....		2	37				
115	Chassell.....		2	40				
116	Lincoln Park.....		3	87				
117	Saginaw.....		2	51				
118	Roseville.....		2	64				
119	St. Clair Shores.....		3	86				
	Department of Michigan.....	R	1		1			



No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
MINNESOTA								
1	Minneapolis	R	69	3,392	69			
2	St. Paul	R	18	851	18			
3	Hibbing	R	6	287	6			
4	Finlayson		2	58				
5	Red Wing		6	253				
6	Duluth		5	203				
7	Bemidji		3	106				
8	Gopher State		1	8				
9	St. Cloud		4	157				
10	Mankato		4	170				
11	Aitkin		3	117				
12	Pierz		1	17				
13	Grand Rapids		2	68				
14	Crookston		2	65				
15	New Ulm		2	64				
16	Albert Lea		3	115				
17	Stillwater		2	48				
18	Cloquet		1	18				
19	Faribault		2	52				
20	Brainerd	R	2	70	2			
22	Virginia		3	104				
23	Montevideo		2	35				
25	Fergus Falls		2	71				
27	Austin		3	83				
	Department of Minnesota	R	1		1			
MISSISSIPPI								
2	Bayou State	R	4	136				
3	Laurel		1	17				
4	Hattiesburg		1	16				
5	Gulfport, R. W. Veal	R	3	118			3	
8	Columbia	R	4	140				
9	Greenville		2	37				
11	Jackson, S. H. Dawson	R	4	155			4	
16	Natchez		1	22				
20	Biloxi		4	149				
21	McComb	R	2	49			2	
22	Vicksburg	R	1	23			1	
23	Hattiesburg, Hub City		1	8				
26	Pittsboro	R	3	100			3	
29	Grenada		1	22				
34	Booneville		1	16				
	Department of Mississippi	R	1				1	
MISSOURI								
1	St. Louis	R	78	3,809	78			
2	Kansas City	R	25	1,179	25			
3	Thayer		1	15				
4	Poplar Bluff		2	38				
5	St. James	R	2	60	2			
6	St. Joseph		1	59				
7	Sedalia		1	6				
10	Independence	R	3	117				
11	Springfield		2	74				
14	Nevada		2	26				
16	Cape Girardeau		2	35				
17	Jefferson City		3	86				
21	Show Me State		2	65				
24	Eldon		2	27				
33	ELDorado Springs		2	27				
MONTANA								
1	Livingston		2	46				
2	Great Falls		4	127				
3	Helena	R	6	233	6			
4	Kalspell		2	39				
5	Missoula		3	105				
6	Butte		5	191				
7	Columbia Falls		2	26				
8	Treasure State		1	10				
10	Billings	R	2	63	2			
11	Lewistown		2	33				
12	Bozeman		2	41				
13	Anaconda		1	23				
15	Shelby		2	44				
19	Miles City		2	31				
	Department of Montana		1					

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
NEBRASKA								
1	Cornhusker State.....		1	13				
2	Omaha.....	R	8	350	8			
3	North Platte.....		2	38				
4	David City.....		1	12				
7	Lincoln.....	R	6	242	6			
9	Hastings.....		4	132				
10	Scottsbluff.....		2	53				
11	Grand Island.....		2	68				
12	Alliance.....		2	46				
13	McCook.....		1	12				
14	Kearney.....		1	22				
15	Holdrege.....		1	19				
16	Albion.....		1	14				
17	Red Cloud.....		1	19				
18	Fremont.....		1	24				
19	Ravenna.....		2	33				
20	Columbus.....		2	68				
21	Rushville.....		1	24				
22	South Sioux City.....		2	45				
23	Creighton.....		1	18				
24	Cedar County.....		1	25				
25	Lexington, Cozad.....		2	27				
26	Beatrice.....		1	22				
27	Fairbury.....		1	17				
28	Wayne.....		1	13				
	Department of Nebraska.....	R	1		1			
NEVADA								
1	Reno.....		4	153				
4	Hawthorne.....		2	38				
5	Sparks.....		2	45				
11	Las Vegas.....		2	44				
	Department of Nevada.....		1					
NEW HAMPSHIRE								
1	Manchester.....		4	155				
4	Fischaqua.....		5	177				
5	Dover.....	R	3	115			3	
7	Nashua.....		1	77				
8	Berlin.....		1	22				
11	Laconia.....		1	20				
13	Exeter.....	R	2	50				
15	Somersworth.....		3	115				
16	Lebanon.....		2	29				
18	Manchester, Queen City.....		5	192				
19	Concord.....	R	2	60				
	Department of New Hampshire.....	R	1				1	
NEW JERSEY								
1	Passaic.....	R	3	116			3	
2	Clifton.....	R	6	235			6	
3	Newark, Melvin Spitz.....	R	11	609			11	
4	Camden.....		3	112				
5	Bayonna.....	R	4	150			4	
6	Jersey City.....		3	85				
7	Plainfield.....		3	92				
8	Hoboken.....		2	75				
9	Union City.....	R	4	174			4	
10	Atlantic City.....	R	3	125			3	
11	Lake Hiawatha.....		1	14				
12	Trenton.....		3	90				
13	Long Branch.....		2	46				
14	Rahway.....	R	3	103			3	
15	Fort Lee.....		1	10				
16	Somerville.....		1	24				
17	Brunswick.....	R	2	69			2	
18	Paterson.....	R	9	414			9	
19	Orange.....		2	43				
20	Irvington.....		1	10				
21	Caldwell.....	R	2	54			2	
22	Morristown.....		1	8				
23	Jersey City, Downtown.....		3	77				
24	Toms River.....		1	13				
25	Kearny.....		1	16				
26	Irving.....	R	8	338			8	
27	Mount Holly.....		2	29				
28	Jersey State.....		2	36				
29	Point Pleasant.....		1	18				
31	Montclair.....		1	21				
32	Hackensack.....		2	41				

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
NEW JERSEY—continued								
33	Bayonne.....		2	72				
34	Elizabeth.....	R	2	42			2	
35	Tuckerton.....		1	23				
37	Asbury Park.....		2	47				
38	Bloomfield.....		2	69				
39	Jersey City.....		1	20				
40	Union.....		2	41				
41	Trenton.....	R	7	301			7	
42	Morristown.....		1	10				
43	Millburn.....		2	27				
44	Wildwood.....		2	28				
45	Red Bank.....		2	51				
48	Phillipsburg.....		1	25				
49	West New York.....		2	37				
50	Scotch Plains.....		1	20				
51	Newark, Paraplegic.....		2	55				
53	Newark, Amputation.....		4	131				
54	North Bergen.....		2	34				
55	Hillside.....		3	83				
56	Woodbridge.....		2	57				
57	Newark, C. F. Mattia.....		1	12				
58	Vineland.....		1	25				
59	Cranford.....		1	9				
60	Parth Amboy.....		2	41				
61	Ocean City.....		1	12				
62	Trenton.....		2	49				
63	Dover.....		2	64				
66	Hammonton.....		2	29				
67	South Amboy.....		2	36				
68	East Orange.....		2	48				
69	Madison.....		1	6				
73	Elizabeth.....		2	91				
74	Freehold.....		2	28				
75	Newark.....	R	1	9			1	
76	Keansburg.....	R	2	46				
	Department of New Jersey.....	R	1				1	
NEW MEXICO								
1	Fort Bayard.....		3	97				
2	Deming.....		2	34				
3	Albuquerque.....	R	19	893	19			
4	Roswell.....		3	97				
5	Clovis.....		2	53				
6	Belen.....		2	30				
7	Cactus State.....		1	22				
8	Raton.....		2	70				
9	Aztec.....		1	9				
10	Las Cruces.....		3	87				
11	Truth or Consequences.....	R	3	90		3		
12	Taos.....		2	50				
13	Carlsbad.....		2	40				
14	Alamogordo.....		2	64				
15	Santa Fe.....	R	4	164	4			
16	Portales.....		2	52				
17	Las Vegas.....		3	78				
18	Clayton.....		1	16				
19	Artesia.....		3	85				
20	Dixon.....		1	9				
21	Gallup.....		1	19				
22	Espanola.....		1	15				
23	Ruidoso.....		2	26				
25	Tucumanari.....		2	50				
27	Hobbs.....		3	90				
	Department of New Mexico.....	R	1			1		
NEW YORK								
1	Greater Buffalo.....	R	12	530			12	
2	Empire State.....		3	106				
3	New York City, Harlem.....		2	28				
4	Canandaigua.....	R	3	121			3	
5	Middletown.....		1	23				
6	Liberty.....		4	126				
7	Bath.....		2	29				
8	Syracuse.....	R	5	206			5	
9	Geneva.....		2	34				
10	Albany.....	R	10	470			10	
11	Utica.....	R	4	164			4	
12	Niagara Falls.....	R	3	80				
13	Elmira.....		1	12				
15	Rochester.....	R	9	409			9	

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
NEW YORK—continued								
16	Yonkers		4	158				
17	Castle Point		3	99				
18	Watertown		2	34				
19	Northport		3	94				
20	Rome	R	3	105			3	
21	Sunmont		2	58				
22	Mount Vernon	R	2	54			2	
23	Bronx	R	13	584			13	
24	Schenectady		2	39				
25	Staten Island		2	41				
26	Flushing, Long Island		2	36				
27	Hempstead	R	5	189			5	
28	Brooklyn	R	31	1,511			31	
29	Astoria, Long Island	R	12	566			12	
30	Syracuse	R	4	189			4	
32	Washington Heights		3	97				
33	St. Albans		2	35				
34	Staten Island	R	1	22			1	
35	Jamaica	R	3	85			3	
36	Far Rockaway		2	50				
38	Troy	R	9	406			9	
39	Tarrytown		2	42				
45	Frankfort		1	20				
47	Jamestown	R	4	150			4	
48	Port Chester	R	2	56			2	
50	Tonawanda		2	50				
55	New York City, Fitzgerald		2	58				
59	Norwich		2	37				
60	Binghamton	R	2	37			2	
68	Massena		1	17				
69	Ogdensburg		2	29				
78	New York, National Amputation	R	14	686			14	
77	New York City		3	94				
78	New York, Kelly Levine	R	7	323			7	
79	New York, A. E. Smith		2	32				
80	New York, F. D. Roosevelt		2	45				
81	New York, General Roosevelt		3	97				
82	Utica	R	15	721			15	
84	Tupper Lake		2	28				
87	New York, Peter Lehman	R	4	162			4	
88	Schenectady, Fryer	R	10	447			10	
91	Buffalo, Queen City	R	3	76			3	
92	Woodside, Long Island		2	58				
94	Brooklyn, Mitscher		1	14				
95	Islip	R	2	52			2	
97	Elmhurst, Long Island	R	2	57			2	
98	White Plains	R	2	49			2	
100	Amsterdam		2	31				
101	Richmond Hill		1	12				
103	Auburn		1	16				
104	New York, Peter Stuyvesant		2	63				
106	New York, Manhattan Beach		2	28				
106	Fulton	R	2	63			2	
107	Brooklyn, Beneduce	R	6	258			6	
108	Brooklyn, Four Chaplains	R	4	128			4	
109	Elmont, Long Island		3	35				
110	Brooklyn, Sanzone	R	3	76			3	
112	Buffalo, Victory	R	2	30			2	
113	South Buffalo	R	4	149				
116	Bay Shore		2	60				
116	New York, Major LaGuardia	R	2	50			2	
117	Levittown		1	22				
118	Ridgewood	R	2	52			2	
119	Olean		2	29				
120	Buffalo, Roll of Honor	R	5	218			5	
121	Oneida		1	20				
122	Gloversville		2	64				
123	Western, Amputation	R	3	82			3	
124	Bayside		2	33				
126	Valley Stream		2	57				
126	New York	R	9	378			9	
127	New York, Shatel		3	76				
130	Brooklyn	R	2	42			2	
132	Buffalo, F. G. M. N.	R	1	16			1	
133	Hamburg	R	2	46				
135	Lackawanna	R	2	31			2	
136	Utica	R	2	57		2		
	Department of New York	R	1				1	

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
NORTH CAROLINA								
2	Asheville		2	45				
3	Tar Heel State		1	22				
4	Burlington	R	4	162			4	
6	Swannanoa		1	15				
8	Wilson		2	55				
9	Winston-Salem, Tate	R	4	126			4	
10	Charlotte	R	7	304			7	
11	Wilmington		1	16				
12	Albemarle		4	139				
13	Lexington		1	17				
18	Shelby		2	73				
19	Gastonia		2	46				
20	Greensboro		3	103				
21	Durham		1	25				
24	Winston-Salem		1	19				
26	Havelock		1	24				
27	Concord		2	68				
30	Rocky Mount		2	37				
31	High Point		1	7				
32	Kinston		1	14				
34	Hickory		3	116				
36	Wadesboro		1	22				
38	Asheville	R	5	197			5	
41	Waynesville		1	17				
42	Marshall		2	36				
43	Morgantown		2	44				
44	Smithfield		2	28				
45	Goldsboro		2	27				
46	Fayetteville		1	22				
47	Lumberton		1	19				
48	Clinton		1	24				
49	Rose Hill		2	34				
50	Wallace		2	31				
51	Wadesboro		1	16				
52	Salisbury		2	41				
	Department of North Carolina	R	1					
NORTH DAKOTA								
1	Fargo	R	8	328	8			
2	Grand Forks		15	721				
3	Bismarck		3	81				
4	Minot		5	205				
5	Devils Lake		2	73				
6	Sioux State		1	19				
8	Dickinson		2	51				
9	Williston		2	29				
11	Langdon		1	20				
13	Dunn Center		1	16				
15	Lakota		1	20				
16	Rugby		1	10				
24	Valley City		2	53				
	Department of North Dakota		1					
OHIO								
1	Cincinnati	R	62	3,037			62	
2	Youngstown	R	13	589			13	
3	Columbus	R	24	1,158			24	
4	Columbus, Verdun		4	135				
5	Gallipolis		3	80				
6	Canton	R	17	776			17	
7	Cleveland	R	20	949			20	
8	Buckeye State		6	240				
9	Dayton	R	36	1,773			36	
10	Portsmouth	R	9	400			9	
11	Warren	R	6	270			6	
12	Zanesville	R	13	592			13	
13	Springfield	R	3	233			6	
14	Fostoria		2	42				
15	Hamilton	R	8	374				
16	Sandusky		3	119				
17	Sabring	R	2	58				
18	Chillicothe		3	103				
19	Lima	R	4	173			4	
20	Lorain	R	6	259			6	
21	Mansfield	R	5	176			5	
22	Marion		4	143				
23	Newark	R	4	157			4	
24	McConnellsville		5	193				
25	Greenfield	R	3	114			3	



No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
OHIO—continued								
110	Cincinnati, Eastern Hills	R	5	224			5	
111	Akron, Teeter		1	8				
112	Mansfield, Richland		1	13				
113	Dayton, Northridge		1	24				
114	Cincinnati, Cheviot	R	3	109			3	
115	Cincinnati, Mount Healthy	R	2	47			2	
116	Cleveland, Parma	R	6	226			6	
117	Bellaire	R	13	619			13	
118	Mount Orab		1	24				
119	St. Marys		2	35				
120	Cincinnati, W. E. Burt	R	2	17			2	
121	Barnesville		1	44				
122	Salem		2	56				
123	Hillsboro		2	69				
125	Garfield Heights		1	20				
126	Waynesville		4	160				
127	Greater Cleveland	R	8	339			8	
128	St. Clairsville		1	15				
129	Newcomerstown		1	25				
130	Basil		2	28				
	Department of Ohio	R	1				1	
OKLAHOMA								
1	Sooner State		1	19				
2	Covington		1	14				
3	Checotah		1	17				
4	El Reno		3	85				
5	Duncan		2	32			2	
6	Enid	R	2	35				
7	Muskogee	R	9	400				
9	Sapulpa	R	2	60				
10	Oklmulgee		1	24				
12	Cushing	R	2	37			2	
16	Blackwell		2	31				
17	Chickasha		5	209				
18	Pauls Valley, Garvin		1	10				
20	McAlester		2	51				
21	Sayre		2	39				
24	Muskogee, Simmons		2	61				
26	Durant		9	399				
29	Oklahoma City, Will Rogers		6	280				
30	Ardmore		3	102				
31	Tahlequah		2	46				
32	Tulsa		2	74				
43	Pryor		1	30				
44	Claremore		1	20				
	Department of Oklahoma		1					
OREGON								
1	Portland	R	15	692	15			
2	Rainier		1	22				
3	Engene		3	121				
4	Oregon City		2	63				
5	McMinnville		1	21				
6	Salem		2	72				
7	Forest Grove		2	45				
8	Medford		5	208				
9	Roseburg		2	64				
10	Webb Foot State		1	10				
11	Grants Pass		3	85				
12	Klamath Falls		3	98				
13	Albany		1	6				
14	Bend		2	36				
16	Newport		2	48				
17	Corvallis		1	10				
18	Ontario		2	46				
19	Baker		1	19				
20	Coos Bay		1	8				
21	La Grande		1	21				
23	Florence		1	11				
24	Elmira		2	35				
25	Portland, D. Walker		2	63				
27	Ordance		2	26				
29	Taft		1	8				
34	Oakland		1	16				
36	Pendleton		1	21				
38	Coquille		1	20				
	Department of Oregon		1					

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
PENNSYLVANIA								
1	Scranton.....	R	5	190			5	
2	Johnstown.....		2	73				
3	Hazleton.....	R	4	142	4			
4	Harrisburg.....	R	6	264			6	
5	Nanticoke.....		2	36				
6	Philadelphia, Olney.....		4	164				
7	Allentown.....		2	49				
8	Pittsburgh.....	R	11	513	11			
9	Wilkes-Barre.....	R	10	443			10	
10	Reading.....	R	3	78				
11	Dickson City.....		4	170				
12	Sharon.....		1	21				
13	Lewistown.....		2	28				
14	Philadelphia.....		8	358				
15	Philadelphia, Naomi.....	R	10	450			10	
16	Keystone State.....		4	131				
18	Bethlehem.....		2	71				
19	Chester.....		2	31				
20	Indiana.....		2	46				
21	Pottsville.....		6	267				
22	Pittsburgh, Liberty.....	R	8	372	8			
23	Dunmore.....		1	10				
25	Norristown.....		2	69				
26	Jeannette.....		4	153				
27	Pittsburgh, East Liberty.....	R	3	101	3			
31	Shenandoah.....		1	16				
32	Plymouth.....		2	63				
33	Carnegie.....	R	2	62	2			
34	Altoona.....		4	155				
35	Greensburg.....		3	76				
36	Vandergrift.....		3	91				
47	Williamsport.....	R	1	17			1	
49	Pittsburgh, Finley.....		3	79				
51	Clairton.....		1	17				
52	McKeesport.....	R	4	161				
53	New Kensington.....		2	69				
54	Ursina.....		1	15				
56	Tarentum.....		2	33				
58	Uniontown.....		2	41				
61	Turtle Creek.....		1	15				
64	Butler.....		3	69				
67	Pittsburgh, Nurses.....	R	2	49	2			
68	Punxsutawney.....		2	36				
69	Pittsburgh, Young.....	R	2	34	2			
72	Bradford.....	R	2	55			2	
73	Erie.....		2	48				
74	Pittsburgh, Southside.....	R	2	44	2			
76	Pittsburgh, Foster.....	R	5	210	5			
78	Chambersburg.....		7	306				
82	Philadelphia, N. E. Moyer.....		5	185				
83	Philadelphia, Ingham.....		1	16				
87	Beaver Falls.....	R	3	107			3	
90	Pittsburgh, Southhills.....		1	16				
92	Philadelphia, Thompson.....		3	93				
96	Philadelphia, Northwest Philadelphia.....	R	4	155		4		
98	Carbondale.....		2	70				
101	Philadelphia.....		2	28				
102	Kingston.....	R	6	269				
107	Aliquippa.....		2	68				
109	Patton.....		1	15				
110	Chambersburg.....		2	57				
112	Lawrence County.....		2	42				
113	Upper Darby.....	R	5	179				
114	Honesdale.....		2	69				
115	Willow Grove.....		2	48				
116	Lock Haven.....		1	24				
117	Leavittown.....		1	17				
118	State College.....		1	21				
119	Tracyville.....		2	57				
120	South Philadelphia.....		2	68				
	Department of Pennsylvania.....	R	1			1		
RHODE ISLAND								
1	Providence.....	R	5	198			5	
2	Little Rhode.....		1	12				
3	Pawtucket.....	R	4	150			4	
4	Woonsocket.....	R	6	238			6	
5	Central Falls.....		2	36				
6	Westerly.....		3	80				
7	Newport.....		1	18				
8	East Providence.....		1	18				



No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
RHODE ISLAND—continued								
9	Warwick		2	51				
10	Cranston	R	2	35			2	
11	Providence, Miller Penta		1	18				
12	Manville	R	2	51				
13	Warren		2	35				
15	Bristol		3	120				
17	West Warwick		2	67				
18	Providence		1	9				
19	Barrington		2	27				
20	East Providence		1	12				
21	Providence		2	56				
	Department of Rhode Island	R	1				1	
SOUTH CAROLINA								
1	Greenville		2	48				
3	Spartanburg, Montgomery		2	30				
4	Columbia		1	19				
5	Sumter		3	76				
6	Abbeville		2	33				
7	Palmetto State		1	7				
8	Greenville		2	44				
9	Columbia		2	57				
10	Charleston		1	16				
11	Florence		2	26				
12	Beaufort		1	20				
13	Columbia	R	4	141			4	
14	Lancaster		3	82				
17	North Charleston	R	2	38			2	
19	Chester	R	2	29			2	
20	Columbia		1	13				
21	Marion		2	39				
22	Sumter		1	15				
24	Gaffney	R	1	14			1	
	Department of South Carolina	R	1					
SOUTH DAKOTA								
1	Sioux Falls	R	10	452	10			
2	Hot Springs		2	73				
3	Rapid City		3	92				
7	Mitchell		1	16				
10	Madison		2	30				
11	Sturgis		1	11				
14	Huron		1	13				
16	Lead		1	9				
	Department of South Dakota	R	1		1			
TENNESSEE								
1	Memphis		2	51				
2	Huntingdon	R	5	212			5	
3	Nashville	R	7	299			7	
4	Knoxville	R	3	108			3	
5	Memphis		1	23				
6	Chattanooga	R	8	357				
7	Jackson	R	5	204			5	
8	Murfreesboro		1	19				
9	Johnson City		4	155				
10	Waynesboro		4	29				
11	Cookeville		2	65				
13	Volunteer State		1	9				
14	Lebanon		1	19				
15	McMinnville		2	34				
16	Madison		2	38				
17	Elizabethtown		1	11				
19	Sparta		1	9				
20	Lawrenceburg		2	46				
21	Springfield		3	96				
22	Columbia		2	33				
24	Knoxville	R	7	253				
25	Cleveland		3	100				
26	Oak Ridge		2	43				
27	Gallatin		1	11				
28	Dickson		2	35				
30	Camden		2	40				
31	Waverly		1	16				
32	Crossville		2	45				
34	Nashville, Colored		2	51				
35	Tazewell		1	25				
38	Kingsport		3	85				
39	Bristol		2	27				

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
TENNESSEE—continued								
42	Greeneville.....		2	40				
43	Shelbyville.....	R	3	101			3	
44	Paris.....		1	22				
45	Clarksville.....		3	85				
46	Dyersburg.....		3	104				
47	Union City.....		2	68				
48	Madisonville.....		1	13				
50	Lexington.....		1	15				
51	Millington.....		2	28				
52	Nashville.....		2	67				
54	Savannah.....		2	27				
55	Oneida.....		1	8				
56	Linden.....		1	18				
57	Jamestown.....		1	7				
59	Morristown.....		2	40				
60	Henderson.....		1	14				
61	Chattanooga.....		1	16				
63	Tullahoma.....		1	19				
64	Centerville.....		1	17				
65	Williamson County.....		2	32				
66	Huntingdon.....		1	19				
67	Lafayette.....		1	7				
69	Franklin.....		1	8				
70	Memphis.....	R	5	197			5	
71	Winchester.....		3	81				
74	Newport.....		2	35				
75	Knoxville.....		2	31				
76	Alcoa.....		2	27				
78	Dresden.....		2	30				
79	Livingston.....		1	7				
80	Memphis.....		1	22				
81	Smithville.....		1	22				
83	Clarkrange.....		1	16				
	Department of Tennessee.....	R	1					
TEXAS								
1	Houston, San Jacinto.....	R	6	248			6	
2	Texas State.....		5	180				
3	Waco.....		5	183				
4	Austin.....	R	4	188	4			
5	San Antonio, Alamo Heights.....	R	2	29			2	
6	Tyler.....		1	22				
7	San Angelo.....		2	66				
8	Kerrville.....		3	110				
9	Houston.....	R	2	50	2			
10	El Paso.....		6	272				
11	Dallas, Buddies.....	R	3	247			6	
12	Corpus Christi.....	R	6	88				
13	Weatherford.....	R	3	85				
14	San Antonio.....	R	3	357				
16	Mount Pleasant.....	R	8	156				
18	Cameron.....		2	27				
20	Fort Worth.....		7	293				
21	Wichita Falls.....		3	105				
22	Sherman.....		1	9				
24	Valley Mills.....		1	23				
25	San Antonio.....	R	4	126			4	
26	Amarillo.....		2	65				
27	Beaumont.....		3	87				
29	Longview.....		1	7				
30	Borger.....		1	14				
31	Dallas.....	R	6	230	6			
32	Dallas, Oak Cliff.....	R	7	324	7			
33	Waxahachie.....		2	57				
34	Lamesa.....		2	46				
36	Abilene.....		2	62				
37	Temple.....	R	2	70	2			
38	McKinney.....		2	55				
40	Groesbeck.....		1	16				
41	Galveston.....		2	52				
42	Grand Prairie.....		1	21				
44	Lubbock.....		2	63				
45	Brownwood.....		1	21				
47	Big Springs.....		2	54				
48	Midland.....		1	21				
49	Texas City.....		2	32				
50	Sweetwater.....		1	17				
52	Marlin.....		2	47				
54	Denison.....	R	2	47				

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
TEXAS—continued								
55	Orange		1	21				
56	Port Arthur		3	123				
57	Dallas, Federal Employees	R	3	80	3			
63	Palestine		2	28				
67	Commerce		1	13				
68	Brownsville		1	18				
72	Wharton County		1	14				
73	Kilgore		1	22				
74	Cisco		1	8				
75	University Park	R	4	145				
76	Laredo		2	48				
79	Atlanta		2	52				
80	San Antonio, Federal	R	5	182			5	
81	Greenville		2	70				
83	Nacogdoches		3	92				
85	Mineral Wells		2	35				
86	Caldwell		1	19				
89	Paris		1	25				
90	Coleman		1	8				
94	Yoakum		2	26				
95	McAllen		1	23				
98	Jacksonville		2	43				
100	Texarkansas		2	41				
101	Athens		2	28				
102	Marshall		2	49				
104	Gainesville		1	24				
106	Denton		2	40				
113	Bridgeport		2	72				
119	Pittsburgh		1	25				
120	Lockhart		1	10				
121	Harlingen		2	60				
122	Westaco		2	42				
126	Baytown		2	47				
128	San Antonio		2	25				
129	Bonham		3	124				
132	Tulia		1	9				
137	Garland		2	33				
139	Brenham		2	55				
140	Emory		1	11				
141	Plainview		2	74				
143	Pecos		1	18				
147	Killeen		1	25				
160	Corpus Christi		2	53				
151	Pittsburg		1	25				
152	Jacksboro		1	12				
154	Edinburg		1	14				
	Department of Texas	R	1		1			
UTAH								
1	Provo	R	1	24	1			
2	Salt Lake City		14	633				
3	Logan		2	28				
4	Ogden		3	125				
6	Salt Lake City, Thomas	R	21	1,008	21			
7	St. George		1	18				
8	Murray	R	2	53	2			
9	Orem	R	3	110				
10	Salt Lake City		1	20				
11	Magna		2	36				
12	Tooele		2	32				
13	Moab		1	21				
	Department of Utah	R	1					
VERMONT								
1	Bellow Falls		1	14				
3	White River Junction		2	41				
4	Bennington		1	11				
5	Burlington	R	5	192			5	
6	Barre		2	42				
7	Rutland	R	4	141			4	
8	St. Albans		1	18				
9	St. Johnsbury		2	32				
12	Essex Junction		2	38				
13	Enosburg		2	43				
14	Chester		1	15				
15	South Burlington	R	1	11			1	
	Department of Vermont	R	1				1	

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
VIRGINIA								
1	Old Dominion State		2	36				
2	Richmond		2	29				
3	Roanoke	R	6	235			6	
4	Norfolk	R	6	258			6	
5	Suffolk		2	56				
6	Newport News		1	25				
7	Fredericksburg		2	74				
8	Lynchburg		4	152				
9	Winchester		3	86				
10	Arlington		3	118				
11	Mount Vernon		1	19				
12	Alexandria	R	2	70			2	
13	Portsmouth	R	5	202			5	
15	Falls Church		2	62				
16	Staunton		3	97				
18	Warrenton		1	13				
19	Danville		2	55				
21	Norfolk		2	48				
22	Portsmouth		1	25				
23	Pulaski		2	27				
24	Richmond		2	67				
25	Norfolk		1	24				
26	South Norfolk		1	23				
27	Portsmouth		1	25				
29	Christiansburg		2	46				
37	Galax		2	29				
39	Marion		1	20				
40	Covington		1	38				
41	Cradcock		3	54				
41	Department of Virginia	R	1				1	
WASHINGTON								
1	Tacoma		6	247				
2	Seattle		11	487				
3	Kelso		2	67				
4	Vancouver		3	124				
5	Bremerton		4	163				
6	Spokane	R	10	467	10			
7	Walla Walla		2	36				
8	Yakima		17	778				
9	Centralia		1	15				
10	Everett		1	16				
11	Evergreen State		1	24				
12	Renton		1	64				
13	Seattle, Sunshine		2	113				
14	Opportunity		2	52				
17	Wenatchee		2	55				
19	Bellingham		2	66				
21	Aberdeen		2	26				
22	Gorst		2	40				
23	West Seattle	R	4	142	4			
24	Olympia		2	66				
30	Renton, South King County		1	25				
31	Richland		1	20				
32	Longview		1	13				
35	Seattle, Applegate		2	65				
36	Orting		2	26				
38	Coulee Dam		2	49				
39	Hoquiam		1	12				
41	Tumwater		3	104				
42	Mount Vernon		1	25				
	Department of Washington		1					
WEST VIRGINIA								
1	Elkins		2	32				
2	Huntington	R	8	371			8	
3	Moundsville		1	14				
5	Buckhannon	R	2	63			2	
6	Parkersburg		3	115				
8	Martinsburg		1	20				
10	Wheeling		2	28				
11	Williamson		1	11				
13	Clarksburg		3	101				
14	Snake State		1	16				
16	Charleston		2	27				
18	Beckley	R	3	91			3	
19	Fairmont		3	122				
20	Logan		1	16				
22	Terra Alta		1	16				
26	Harrisville		1	20				

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
WEST VIRGINIA—continued								
27	Point Pleasant		5	201				
28	South Charleston		3	80				
33	Bluefield		2	51				
35	Welch		1	9				
36	French Creek		3	89				
38	Rupert		2	38				
40	Parsons		1	15				
41	Sutton		1	8				
42	Sandyville		1	6				
44	Wayne		2	32				
45	Morgantown		2	27				
46	Summersville		1	25				
47	Mullens		1	22				
48	Lewisburg		1	21				
49	St. Albans		1	29				
	Department of West Virginia	R	2				1	
WISCONSIN								
1	Milwaukee	R	0	386		9		
2	Madison	R	4	144				
3	Green Bay		3	102				
4	Superior		2	29				
5	Waukesha		2	70				
6	Janesville		2	51				
7	Milwaukee, E. O. Orth		3	84				
8	Baraboo		2	54				
9	Racine	R	4	150		4		
10	Eau Claire		3	77				
11	Fond Du Lac		3	101				
12	La Crosse		4	129				
13	Badger State		2	26				
14	Beloit	R	2	74		2		
15	Sheboygan		4	141				
17	Oshkosh		4	170				
18	Appleton		2	44				
19	West Allis	R	10	458		10		
20	Kenosha		2	70				
21	Chippewa Falls		3	120				
23	Antigo		1	22				
26	Monomonic		1	70				
27	Tomah		2	58				
30	Stevens Point	R	3	112				
31	Medford		1	10				
34	Burlington		3	114				
38	Elroy		2	30				
41	Milwaukee		2	32				
42	Marinette		2	57				
44	Milwaukee, Gettelman		3	96				
46	Neanah		2	48				
47	Spooner		2	45				
50	Beaver Dam		1	12				
52	Rice Lake		1	21				
53	Manawa		3	76				
54	Waupaca		2	41				
55	Wisconsin Rapids		2	58				
56	Hortonville		2	72				
57	Marshfield		2	29				
58	West Bend		2	41				
60	Portage	R	2	45		2		
61	Black River Falls		1	18				
62	Rhinelander		1	22				
	Department of Wisconsin	R	1			1		
WYOMING								
1	Casper		1	15				
2	Cheyenne		3	99				
4	Torrington		1	19				
6	Laramie		1	15				
	Department of Wyoming		1					
FOREIGN								
50	Foreign		1	10				
BLIND VETERANS								
51	Blind Veterans' National	R	3	107	1	2		
NOMAD								
52	Nomad		2	65				

## THIRTY-SEVENTH NATIONAL REPORT

No.	Chapter	Delegates	Vote	Members	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS								
2	McKinley Makati.....		1	12				
5	Cebu City.....		1	14				
6	Pangasinan.....		2	29				
53	Philippine Islands.....		2	33				
	Department of Philippine Islands.....		1					
NATIONAL COLORED								
2	Waco, Tex.....		1	10				
5	Mobile, Ala.....		2	38				
7	Greensboro, Ala.....		1	13				
12	Bessemer, Ala., Charles Young.....		2	31				
15	New Orleans, La., Jackson.....		3	123				
16	Shreveport, La.....		1	19				
18	Grove Hill, Ala.....		2	27				
19	Huntsville, Ala.....		1	14				
20	Evergreen, Ala.....		1	20				
54	National Colored.....		4	138				
PUERTO RICO								
1	San Juan.....		1	15				
PANAMA CANAL ZONE								
1	Balboa.....		1	21				

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Name and office	Registered	Vote	Los Angeles	Cincinnati	Louisville	Miami
Joseph F. Burke, national commander.....	R	1				
Paul E. Frederick, senior vice commander.....	R	1			1	
Arvo T. Hietala, 1st junior vice commander.....	R	1				
Harry Wentworth, 2d junior vice commander.....	R	1	1			
H. L. Davidson, 3d junior vice commander.....	R	1				
David B. Williams, 4th junior vice commander.....	R	1				
Sylvester Hoffmann, national judge advocate.....	R	1		1		
Rev. Joseph C. Pickett, national chaplain.....	R	1		1		
Armand F. Plaisance, national executive committee, 1st district.....	R	1		1		
Frederick Rundbaken, national executive committee, 2d district.....	R	1				
C. L. Constantine, national executive committee, 3d district.....	R	1	1			
Robert Dove, national executive committee, 4th district.....	R	1			1	
Eugene D. Caldwell, national executive committee, 5th district.....	R	1			1	
J. C. Broome, national executive committee, 6th district.....	R	1				
Harley Ward, national executive committee, 7th district.....	R	1			1	
Matthew J. Werel, national executive committee, 8th district.....	R	1		1		
Paul A. Harmon, national executive committee, 9th district.....	R	1	1			
Clarence R. Quigley, national executive committee, 10th district.....	R	1	1			
Tracy Astle, national executive committee, 11th district.....	R	1				
Elmer B. Allmeroth, national executive committee, 12th district.....	R	1	1			
Russell H. Rock, national executive committee, 13th district.....	R	1				
Charles M. Steese, national executive committee, 14th district.....	R	1				
A. M. "Paddy" Driscoll, Blind Veterans.....	R	1		1		
FAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS						
Robert S. Marx.....		1				
Millard W. Rice.....	R	1	1			
E. Claude Babcock.....		1				
Joseph W. McQueen.....		1				
Marvin A. Harlan.....		1				
M. Froome Barbour.....		1				
Lewis J. Murphy.....		1				
Laurence R. Melton.....		1				
William J. Dodd.....		1				
J. L. Monahan.....	R	1				
Vincent E. Schoeck.....		1				
Milton D. Cohn.....	R	1				
Lloyd F. Oleson.....		1				
John L. Golob.....	R	1	1			
David M. Brown.....	R	1				
Boniface Maile.....	R	1				
Ewing W. Mays.....		1				
Floyd L. Ming.....	R	1	1			
Howard Watts.....	R	1			1	
Judge Alfred English.....	R	1			1	
Gen. Melvin J. Maas.....		1				

National Adjutant CORBLY. Mr. Commander, that completes the rollcall.

(At the conclusion of the rollcall, on transfer of votes, the States of California, Georgia, Massachusetts, and Maine requested that their votes be changed and recorded in favor of the city of Louisville.)

DELEGATE (Chapter No. 5, District of Columbia). No. 5, District of Columbia moves that we declare Louisville elected.

Comrade ROSE. Mr. Commander, I would like to congratulate the very fine comrade, the committee of the Louisville crowd, and we hope that we will get to Louisville and I am sure we are going to have a fine convention. But Los Angeles will look for it in 1959.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair recognizes the national adjutant.

National Adjutant CORBLY. I move you, sir, Mr. Commander, in view of the choice made, that we suspend the rules for the purpose of taking action on the motion I propose to make. That being that it is the consensus of this convention that we cast a unanimous ballot for the city of Louisville for our 1958 national convention.

Comrade SHIELDS. Shields, commander of California, seconds the motion.

National Commander BURKE. You have heard the motion duly seconded. All those in favor?

All opposed?

The motion is carried.

The only way we can proceed in an orderly business is that the delegates take their chairs with their respective districts, the alternates will leave the room because we have another election coming up and we want to be able to conduct an orderly ballot. Now I want those hallways cleared and go to your places. You only have a couple more hours and you don't have to listen to me anymore. So bring the men in and get them seated.

The Chair would like the newly elected commander of the ladies auxiliary to come to the platform while the delegations are settling down. Perhaps if you won't settle down for me you might for a lady.

I am going to ask the various State commanders, I charge you all to take care of your delegations as far as the orderly and democratic processes are concerned. You are the leaders, for the most part, of your delegation, so will the State commanders see that their delegations are kept under control as far as the purpose of the rollcall are concerned?

I, at this time, take the greatest of pleasure in presenting to you from California Mrs. Viola Hoffman of Glendale, Calif., the newly elected commander of the ladies auxiliary.

National Commander VIOLA HOFFMANN (ladies auxiliary). Comrades, national commander, national officers, I have been in office a very short time and while the time is short I know my auxiliary so well that I can promise from them aid and assistance again.

We had a fine year, we had increased membership, so that with those increased members our program will even be better, we hope. We need the members for a better program. We increased our membership by 2,000 in this fiscal year. We had 29 members who brought in 595 members. That would be an average of 20 apiece and the highest was 30, 29, 29, 28, 25, 23, 23, 21, on down. Don't you think that is a fine record? [Applause.]



Again, we will aid you, we trust and pray that H. R. 52 we will not have to work on again, but we did aid and assist you and we await your command at any time on any of your projects. As your auxiliary we will assist and aid any time.

Thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. Thank you very much. The Chair is a bit puzzled; however, he wants to know what is going to happen in the Hoffmann family when Sylvester Hoffmann gives an adverse ruling to the ladies auxiliary?

The newly elected national chaplain of the ladies auxiliary, Lucille McCarthy. [Applause.]

(The ladies withdrew from the platform.)

National Commander BURKE. Nominations for the office of commander will be made shortly. First we have to have judges of the election.

Comrade CLARENCE MURPHY (California Chapter, No. 39). Mr. Chairman, I traveled 3,000 miles to come here. I have a letter from each district to appeal a decision to this convention and therefore request that I be given permission to appeal this case before the convention assembled. I traveled over 3,000 miles, and I won't take more than 5 minutes of your time.

National Commander BURKE. While you are coming up here, Gaddis Williams will be a judge of the election, of Mississippi.

Comrade WAYNE SHEERSON (Washington Chapter, No. 23). The Department of Washington has been asked several questions of why we didn't put in for the convention for 1958. I will tell you why. In the year of 1961 the great State of Washington, the Evergreen State of the Pacific Northwest, is holding a world's fair and in a world's fair we want you all to come to the great State of Washington, Seattle, and have your 1961 convention.

Thank you.

National Commander BURKE. Robert Floyd, of Louisiana, will be a teller.

Maurice Sweeney from New Jersey, George Forakis from New York, and Shields, the State Department Commander of California.

Clarence Murphy, Huntington Park, Southgate, Calif., wishes to appeal to the convention from a ruling of the national executive committee and in our democratic processes we must listen to his appeal.

Comrade MURPHY. Thank you, Comrade Commander.

I appreciate the courtesy you are extending me.

Comrades, I have come here 3,000 miles to file an appeal. I have in my possession our national charter issued August 12, 1931, the charter reads Huntington Park Southgate Chapter 39. The charter was issued in the name of Southgate, it is signed by the national commander of the name, E. C. Babcock. We have never requested to have our charter name changed. The national executive committee in Des Moines changed the name of our charter without notification in any way to us, at the request of another chapter in another city.

Another thing, we appealed that decision, the national executive committee affirmed the decision of the Des Moines committee, even though it was an illegal decision.

I have here a letter from the Secretary of State addressed to Vivian Corbly, attention of Mr. Fred Bristol, stating that the records of this

office indicate that Huntington Park Southgate Chapter 39 incorporated is a California corporation, incorporated July 25, 1936. This is from the secretary of the State of California.

I have here a copy of a letter from Vivian Corbly, dated May 4, 1955, stating the Huntington Park Chapter 39 has been known as such for quite a number of years and in the record the original application is dated August 31, 1931. A file in this office verifies this statement.

The national executive committee changed the name of our charter without notification to us and against our protests.

The Department of California adopted a resolution at the recent San Jose convention, there was only one dissenting vote on the entire convention floor, stating that they desire that our charter should not be changed since we have never requested it.

I, therefore, appeal to this body, I entertain a motion that the national and that this convention that our charter remains the name as Huntington Park-Southgate as I have a copy here before me as well as all these documents. I thank you, gentlemen, for your courtesy.

Comrade HAROLD WELLNITZ (Department of Wisconsin). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. There is more to this story than you heard. I am not taking any sides except I want to point one thing out. In this room are national executive committeemen who have served 4 years, different ones, on this particular matter. This is the fourth national executive committee, after studying all the facts very carefully, have decided against Huntington Park. Now the national executive committee has heard it. This appeal comes late. It is not Murphy's fault. He understands that, but if you send national executive committeemen from all over the country they draw up subcommittees and sit down and they have heard it and unanimously for 4 years they voted against what Murphy here brings out, he is only bringing out one side of the story. If this convention wants to rehash this whole issue which has taken 4 executive committees and 4 subsequent conventions, Murphy says 3, I'll accept that, 3 committees have met on that, they have received hearings and everything else and still the decision is the California people will bear out, has been against the Huntington Park outfit. I am only offering that in explanation. I am making no motion. I will ask the national adjutant to explain the action of the various subcommittees.

Comrade WELLNITZ (Wisconsin). Wellnitz, of Wisconsin, wants to be recognized again and withdraws his second to the motion.

Comrade MURPHY. I want to correct the statement. The statement made that the California delegation—

Comrade A. H. JORDAN (California Chapter, No. 15). Second the motion.

Comrade LESLIE E. HUNTER (California Chapter, No. 135). At present the chapter is known as the Huntington Park Chapter, right?

National Commander BURKE. Huntington Park Chapter. As far as the national executive committee is concerned, yes.

Comrade MURPHY. Comrades, there was a statement made, I have here where at the State Convention in San Jose there was only one dissenting vote on that entire convention floor and that was the chapter who is trying to steal our name. This chapter resides in another city and it would set a bad precedent if another chapter that is not

in your city can go to the national convention and tell the national executive committee they desire to have that chapter's name over here in another city. Either we are a charter named or we are not a charter organized.

I feel this way, comrades, and it is deep within my heart that only the members, you individually, each one of your chapters, if you can request to have your charter name changed, yes. Why should a national executive committee listen to another chapter because they want to change the name of another chapter? You, as individuals, remember if you let them get by this, that means that another chapter if it is a chapter in Brooklyn they can ask a chapter in Buffalo's name be changed and they would have the power to do it by setting the precedent here that the national executive committee cannot change the chapter's name without their own request.

I say let's stand on our rights. We have a charter name, our charter name is our birth certificate. We don't want somebody to take our birth certificate away.

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, may I speak as a point of information and advise the convention the action that was taken by the national executive committee here in Buffalo.

The question involves the fund-raising rights in a community on the part of two existing chapters with a dispute about a part of the name. Because the part of the name is interpreted as giving jurisdiction for fund-raising purposes in the third city in which a chapter is not organized.

The communities are contiguous practically. The national executive committee, because of the plans presently underway, upheld the decision of last year's national executive committee with respect to the name and instructed the national organization through the Department of California, through its Seventh District Commander, who is in attendance at this convention, to immediately form a chapter in the third community where there is not a chapter so as to eliminate the cause of all the present friction. The processes of forming the chapter are already underway.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA (now presiding). Comrade Burke.

National Commander BURKE. I simply asked the floor to explain one thing to the delegates. So far as I am concerned I am 2,000 miles removed when I go back to Bayonne, but I served on executive committees where you charged us with the responsibilities of hearing these grievances. We have heard these grievances for 3 years. If you upset the findings of those national executive committees for 3 years, then why do we have a national executive committee? Why do you people vote for them? I have faith in the national executive committee that voted on this. This was something that is not yesterday. There have been full 3 hearings in this convention and full hearings in the last 2. I am sorry, Murph, they went before the executive committee because you weren't here 1 year and somebody else wasn't here another, but the last 3 executive committees including this one, handled this particular matter. This is the third year.

Comrade William K. ADAMS (Ohio, Chapter No. 19). May I ask for a point of information? You can have more than one chapter in an area, but is it a question of a number of chapters in there, or is it

the question of changing the name of the chapter without consulting the chapter?

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. I will ask Comrade Murphy to answer that and he has 2 or 3 other statements he wants to make.

Comrade MURPHY. The comrade said we had notification of two previous hearings. According to constitution and bylaws we never received written notification to appear at the Des Moines committee to be heard. That is verified. Comrade Corbly's letter addressed 1955, states we have never requested our charter to be changed. The letter from the Secretary of State states we are incorporated under our original charter name. The letter from the city council of the city of Southgate is here notarized for evidence to show that we have been rendering a service in that city, that our original charter was issued in that city on August 12, 1931. Here it is notarized, certified letter from the city council. We don't care what they call the other chapter. That is their privilege. My point here is what right does an outsider have to come in, go to a national executive committee to request them to change the name of your chapter? You are the one who should request to have your name changed, not someone who is not in your chapter or an outsider. That is my contention. Therefore, if we want to change our name, we have to go to legal procedures. We were not notified at Des Moines. The only notice we received was at the San Antonio convention. We are a poor chapter. We are fortunate enough the Elks lodge, who thinks highly of us, financed me to this trip. All we want to do is retain our original name and the other chapter can call them Joe Blow or anything else. We are not interested in their name.

Comrade TEX ROSE (California Chapter No. 58). Comrade Murphy, I want to ask you two questions. Isn't it true that it was practically unanimous at the San Jose convention that your chapter was recognized as the Huntington Park-Southgate Chapter?

Comrade MURPHY. That is correct.

Comrade ROSE. Isn't it also true that the seventh district also is behind this particular trouble between the Linwood and the Huntington Park-Southgate Chapter?

Comrade MURPHY. That is correct. They are a hundred percent behind us.

Comrade RIVLIN. Now, Comrade Commander, Rivlin, 22, Pennsylvania. As I heard the discussion of the presentation of the comrade's question, and as I heard the national commander state that this question had been up before 3 national executive committees, whether the 3 national executive committees acted right or wrong, that is why we have the rules that provide for filing an appeal to the national convention. The question arises here, there may have been many national executive committee meetings who heard the case and yet we have often heard of many cases in courts where, after several courts have rendered a decision, the Supreme Court reverses it. This is the supreme court of the Disabled American Veterans. I say to you, my comrades, that if the national organization as far back as 1931 duly and legally chartered a group in a particular name, no other group has a right to come in and ask for a change in name without that group particularly being interested and requesting it.

I believe the comrade is right and just in his appeal and I move the question for the convention be put.

Comrade LESLIE HUNTER (Department of California). I am not from that area but know something of their problem. I take his statements very well that this is the supreme court of the Disabled American Veterans and as you know both sides of the question are always presented to the supreme court for judgment. And I, as a part of the Department of California, would feel that it would be a great injustice to take any action which would be to the detriment of the party concerned that is now known as Linwood-Southgate Chapter, and does not have the right to rebutt what the comrade has said and gives to you today.

I would move to table.

Comrade I. I. KURHAN (Chapter No. 5, District of Columbia). I wish to add my remarks to the effect that I believe a charter that is in possession of a chapter if that is a genuine charter that is the chapter.

I therefore move the question.

Comrade EMMETT A. DONAGHUE (Chapter No. 94, Massachusetts). I merely wanted to say this Clarence Murphy I know, I talked to him and I honestly believe that the man has a real case and here he is bringing it before us as our supreme court and I think we should back him up 100 percent without further ado.

Comrade LEO DELAPP. I would like to say at this time to make this record correct, Comrade Murphy only said he entertained a motion. Somebody jumped up and seconded it. I will make the motion that that this supreme body consider this case.

DELEGATE GEORGE. I'll second the motion.

Comrade RIVLIN. The motion as stated is not in order, it is not for consideration. I move that the charter as granted in 1931 to this chapter in the name in which it was entered, shall be continued and retained without changes.

Comrade JORDAN (Chapter No. 15, Department of California). Second the motion. And, comrades, I'd like to speak on the motion. At our last department convention this was brought up before the executive committee and before the Department of California. The Department of California sustained the contention that Comrade Murphy brought there and I think this convention should sustain the convention mandates of the Department of California.

Comrade HARLEY WARD (NEC, 7th District). I was one of the committeemen on this and I would like to say that there isn't one-tenth of the evidence that was in that case presented here on the platform at this time. And, comrades, when the other chapter is not represented I don't think you have a right to vote anybody guilty until you hear from their side.

This chapter changed their name in the State of California and they—

Comrade RIVLIN. Point of order and a personal privilege. I believe the comrade is entirely out of order. There is not a question of difficulties between any chapters. We are only concerned with the name of this one chapter. I think this comrade is entirely out of order.

National Commander BURKE. Mr. Chairman—

Comrade FLOYD GROOTHUIS (chapter No. 28, Illinois). Point of personal information. Comrade Commander Burke has already

spoken on the question. I thought the convention rules you are allowed to speak one time. I move the previous question, it has been discussed. I think everybody understands the issue.

National Commander BURKE. All the national commander can say is one thing. He was most generous with that gentleman 2 or 3 times, most generous. All I wanted to speak for is the national executive committees for the last 3 years. You asked me for the floor all over and I recognized you indiscriminately. When I want to say something after a year's stewardship to this convention, you refuse me a voice.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON. Let's stop and think. I happened to vote for the national commander and the other staff. My goodness alive, if we haven't got confidence in our national officers, don't show your ignorance because you voted for them.

Comrade LESLIE HUNTER. If you want the part of the story we have with us today the auxiliary commander of the Department of California.

[Cries of "No."]

Comrade LEO LALLEY (Boston, chapter No. 10). Point of order. Just because you move a question doesn't move it. You must get a second.

Commander, I will second the motion to move the previous question.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. The previous question has been called for. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of giving this chapter permission to retain their original charter name, say "Aye."

Those opposed?

Comrade LEO LALLEY. Point of order. All you are doing is moving the question, Comrade Commander.

Comrade MURPHY. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Comrade LEO LALLEY. Point of order. All that motion was for was to move the question, to shut off debate.

National Judge Advocate HOFFMANN. Comrade Commander, the point of order is well taken. If I move the previous question and it is seconded, and the delegates move on whether they want to vote on the main question, then you say "Yes; I want to vote on the question," which you did. Then the commander says, "All right. We will now vote on the main question, to put the main question."

Comrade RIVLIN. I suggest a standing vote on the main question.

First Junior Vice Commander HIETALA. All those in favor, say "Aye."

Opposed?

So ordered.

(When put to a vote, the motion carried.)

National Commander BURKE (now presiding). The delegates will please come to order. The delegates will please come to order.

Comrade KENNETH ROBEY (Department of Ohio). Mr. Commander, I should like to speak to the convention about their discourtesy to the national commander.

National Commander BURKE. Do me a favor. This convention today decided that it would be national executive committee and everything else. I just advise you to drop it. I am satisfied. I have seen their will. It means nothing to them that these national executive committees sit day in and day out. They made a ruling without hearing

any of the evidence, so therefore I wish you would drop it and go on with the election.

Comrade ROBEY. I am not speaking about the executive committee.

National Commander BURKE. Kenny, I wish you would leave the microphone and let's get on with the election.

DELEGATE FROM SIXTH DISTRICT. I wish to challenge your statement. Our national executive committeeman said he has not met one meeting except what was held at this convention. The rest was done by mail at which no evidence other than a letter was sent.

Thank you.

National Commander BURKE. Let me explain this to the delegates and I am not going to rehash it. This was a grievance. When you have a grievance you have trials. It was not a national executive committee vote, it was a trial on this subject. That is why it had to be done at the national convention.

Nominations are in order for the office of national commander.

The adjutant will call the roll by States.

National Adjutant CORBLY. New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Rhode Island, Massachusetts—

Comrade JOSEPH HAROLD (Massachusetts Chapter No. 10). Massachusetts wishes to yield to Greenfield, Chapter, No. 25, Ohio.

Comrade A. L. DANIELS (Chapter, No. 25, Ohio).

Mr. Commander—

Comrade SIDNEY SILLER (New York Chapter, No. 25).

Mr. Commander, point of order. I believe that the rollcall of chapters by districts is in error.

National Commander BURKE. If you had been at these conventions for the last 10 years you know we call them that way. We call them from the first district down. Take my word to save time, this is the way it has always been done.

National Adjutant CORBLY. If you look at the convention minutes you will find that the rollcalls of the conventions for the nominations are States by districts.

Comrade DANIELS. Commander and delegates of the convention, I heard a friend of mine say this morning that about the best way to make a speech is to have a good beginning, and a good ending, and then hold them as close together as possible. And I promise you here this evening that I am going to try my best to do the latter.

First I want to say that we are gathered here from all parts of the United States to renew our faith in a great organization that is America itself. To hear the reports of our past accomplishments, to plan for the future, and to choose the leaders for the wars' disabled of America, the national commander of the DAV. This is a real responsibility for us and I say that the man we choose here today must have the strength and the ability to conduct an unrelenting campaign in behalf of those Americans who incurred a disability as a direct result of war service. And I say to you delegates that the leader we choose here today should give the people of America the facts about the DAV and that they should also give them the facts about that vicious campaign which was waged against this great organization which was instigated here in the State of New York by 2 or 3 individuals, and which was packed full of untruths, half truths, misrepresentations, and insinuations.

Yes, and I say that the leader we choose here today must not fail to inform our people of the fallacy of Mr. H. V. Higley, the present Administrator of the Veterans' Administration, who is reducing and eliminating the benefits of thousands of bullet-wounded and other disabled veterans, and in violation, if you please, of the laws enacted by the Congress of the United States.

Yes; the leader we choose here today for America's service disabled should remind, I say should remind, Mr. Higley and others that it has always been the custom of this country of ours to be just to veterans of all our wars and to their dependents, that this Nation cannot afford—I underscore that—cannot afford to neglect those who have served here in time of war and were disabled as a direct result of that service.

And these officials should also be informed that a great majority of the American people consider the care of the disabled as a part of the cost of war.

Yes; we are gathered here and in a spirit of tolerance that to me finds itself in that almost indefinable thing we call the DAV. On the common meeting ground of the DAV there is no place, no room I say, for prejudice, sectional, political, or religious. Of course, it is true that there are occasional outcroppings of sectional pride as we come together at these national conventions. But they represent a natural faith in one's city or State. In other words, they have the expression of that friendly spirit of cooperation which has made America what it is today.

For instance, I come from Ohio, proud of the State, proud of the great record of that commonwealth in helping to build the DAV, in rendering service to the disabled, and exceedingly proud of that great Ohioan I am about to nominate for the office of national commander.

I nominate a candidate for national commander who has rendered a great service to the DAV. I have watched his years of service, men and women of this convention, with an interest and a great pride. I have watched his rise in this DAV perhaps as no other man has watched it. And I say to you, in all sincerity, he is a man of courage, honesty, and ability, a man who has preached the gospel of the DAV all over Ohio for years. And with telling effect. No road has ever been too long, no night has ever been too stormy for him to attend a chapter meeting.

He served with Company A of the 251st Infantry Regiment of the 63d Division during World War II. It was while ministering to a wounded comrade on the field of battle near Heidelberg, Germany, on April 6, 1945, that he was severely wounded and although he saved the life of that comrade, he spent a year in the hospital himself and has never regained the use of his leg.

And in conclusion I say to you I nominate as candidate for national commander this man who became a life member while on a furlough from one of these hospitals, who served in several offices of his home chapter at Cincinnati and became its commander in 1948. And I nominate as candidate for national commander a man who has served as junior and senior vice commander of the Ohio Department, was elected commander of that department in 1952, who was elected fourth national junior vice commander in 1954, second national junior vice commander in 1955, and is presently serving as our national senior



vice commander. He is a successful businessman, a graduate of Xavier University, attended Chase Law School, and I say to you that he and his estimable wife and four little daughters enjoy the respect and esteem of all who know them.

Yes; I nominate as candidate for national commander a man with an outstanding record of service to the DAV, a man who has demonstrated, I say a man who has demonstrated that he possesses the courage, the ability, and the determination to carry out the program adopted here at this national convention.

I nominate one of America's finest citizens, Paul E. Frederick, Jr., of Ohio. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. For the purpose of seconding the nomination of Paul Frederick the Chair recognizes David B. Williams, of Massachusetts.

Fourth Junior Vice Commander WILLIAMS. Thank you very much, Joe.

Comrades, I count it a great personal privilege to have been asked to second the nomination of our next national commander. He is a man I have learned to know, learned to respect and to love, in a spirit of comradeship.

He has visited with us in New England. He has visited with you in the South, in the West, in the Southwest, yes, even in the Pacific areas. My comrades, he has always presented himself in a manner which you know is in the best interests of our organization and the fundamental principles for which we stand. He will be a capable and forward looking leader of our organization, in the year to come.

I feel that the eloquent words of the gentleman from Ohio render it unnecessary for me to enlarge upon his qualifications. You have known him for years, he is your comrade and he is your friend, And, again, it is my privilege on behalf of my department, of my district, and on the many departments who have been so kind to me throughout the years and particularly at this convention, to second the nomination of our next national commander, Paul Frederick, of Ohio. [Applause.]

National Commander BURKE. The adjutant will continue the rollcall.

(The rollcall was continued and New York yielded to Illinois.)

National Commander BURKE. The Chair brings before the convention for the purpose of nomination, Nick Isaacson, of Illinois.

Comrade N. ISAACSON (Illinois, Chapter No. 2). Thank you, Comrade Commander.

My comrades and gentlemen of the convention, today we are faced with a compote of administrative and financial problems strangely reminiscent of a group of God's children who in scriptural times were lost in a swampy morass. Their worldly belongings were piled high in a great vehicle towed by Jumbo, a large and willing elephant. But the caravan was unable to proceed except at a slow and painful pace. The reason was easily discerned. Jumbo was piled high with large chains which encircled his powerful legs and rested heavily upon his back.

The man responsible was Esau. He feared Jumbo and was determined to keep him restrained even though he risked the lives and property of his followers.

Floodwaters from the incessant rains were closing in on the little company and finally Jumbo could go no farther. His chains had proved too much and he bogged down in the sticky mud.

The people loudly remonstrated with Esau but he was obdurate and now resorted to beating Jumbo with a long and stinging lash. But the elephant, though he struggled magnificently, only sank deeper into the morass.

Finally there was a tremendous crash of thunder and in the lightning flash that followed a man suddenly appeared, a kind and determined man. He quickly seized the whip which Esau was using to beat Jumbo, broke it and cast it away. Then he cried in a loud commanding voice, "Jumbo, break your chains, Jumbo, break your chains."

Upon his command the great beast's muscles tightened, he heaved and with a rending crash, the chains fell away from Jumbo's back and legs. He was free and plunged ahead out of the morass into the sunlight and freedom.

Today, our DAV, an organization of free, determined men, is like Jumbo, loaded with chains. Men of the DAV motivated only with the ideals of patriotism, who willingly bared their breasts to the horrible barbs of war, who without compromise placed their lives on the line to back freedom from the autocracy of their country's enemies, have become bound down with chains too heavy to bear.

At this critical moment a great leader has appeared, a man of integrity and courage, a kindly but undertsanding and a determined leader. A man in whose heart is inculcated the firm conviction that the reason for our DAV is service, service to our comrades, and who is profoundly mindful of the dedicated performance by our great group of national service officers as well as those who work tirelessly among their chapters and in our State departments. A kindly, understanding man with a successful background of business experience and public service to his great State. A man who has served reputably in every branch of our organization, who has worked indefatigably without thought of compensation or aggrandizement. A public-minded businessman of unimpeachable integrity and great affection for his comrades.

This great leader, at his own initiative and at his own expense, journeyed to Washington to use his personal prestige to intercede with his State's congressional delegation to obtain their active fighting support for the veterans legislation and particularly for House bill No. 52, and other legislation.

This great DAV disabled in World War I, gave five sons to his country in World War II, a men whose compelling convictions come from his belief that the DAV's only reason for existence is service to our comrades. And whose respect and affection for those who carry forward the fight, is without parallel.

This man, like in the parable of Esau, has arrived to lead us. He cries out, as did Esau, so many years ago, "Jumbo, break your chains, Jumbo, break your chains." [Applause.]

Join with me today in electing this man as our national commander. His name is J. Cal Broome. I nominate him for the office of national commander.

National Commander BURKE. Is there a second on the platform?

Comrade NICK CACHIANES (New York, Chapter No. 76). I am greatly honored by the State of New York to have been selected to second the nomination of J. C. Broome.

National Commander BURKE. The adjutant will continue the rollcall.

(The rollcall was continued.)

National judge advocate SYLVESTER HOFFMANN (California, Chapter No. 33). Comrade Commander, I move that the rules be suspended and that further nominations be from the floor.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON. Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. The Chair makes the point that this is not in accordance with the rules. Every State's name must be called. Let's finish the rollcall.

Comrade DELAPP (California Chapter No. 65). I understood the Chair to say awhile ago that this body was supreme, why can't we?

Comrade JOSEPH HAROLD (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). I think by unanimous consent we can suspend the rules.

National Commander BURKE. Let's finish the rollcall.

Comrade JOHN VICAT (New York, Chapter No. 28). May I ask a question? At this time would it be possible for a respectful request for a 10-minute recess?

(Cries of "No.")

National Commander BURKE. If you want to get on with the business of elections that rollcall will be finished in 2 minutes.

Comrade VICAT. May I make a motion at this time?

(Cries of "No.")

Comrade VICAT. I am asking the commander. I make a motion, respectfully request a motion to be passed on by this body so that we may have a 10-minute recess for the pledged delegations to meet in the foyer here for 10 minutes. Please grant that request.

National Commander BURKE. As soon as this rollcall is finished we will have a recess because we have to start calling the roll.

Past National Commander WATTS. I make a motion that that motion be tabled.

Comrade SIDNEY SILLER. Point of order, sir. A motion to recess as made by Past Department Commander Vicat pursuant to Roberts Rules of Order is a nondebatable motion and must be granted by the Chair. I ask for a rule from the judge advocate on that.

National Commander BURKE. The judge advocate will put the opinion.

We haven't finished the rollcall. I will put the motion to the body. Do you want a 10-minute recess? Those in favor, say "Aye."

Let me get this straight before you get me completely confused. An aye vote will mean a 10-minute recess. A no vote will mean no recess. All in favor of a recess, say "Aye."

Those opposed, "No."

The noes have it. No recess.

Finish the roll.

(The national adjutant completed the rollcall.)

National Commander BURKE. That completes the rollcall.

Comrade SIDNEY SILLER. I now make a motion for a 10-minute recess for the delegates to meet in the foyer of this hall.

My motion is not debatable and must be granted by the Chair pursuant to the mandates of the rules of order of this convention. Par-

liamentary procedure being what it is, Commander Burke, in all fairness I ask you to grant the motion pursuant to our own rules.

National Commander BURKE. I will have the convention rule on the motion.

Comrade SILLER. The convention pursuant to the Roberts Rules of Order, and Mr. Corby knows it, and Mr. Hoffmann knows it, parliamentary procedure governs.

COMRADE FROM CHICAGO CHAPTER No. 2. I will second that motion to recess.

National Commander BURKE. The motion is made and seconded to recess. I will put the vote again.

Comrade HENRY RIVLIN (Pennsylvania, Chapter No. 22). Comrade Commander, for a point of order. The point of order is, has the rollcall been completed?

National Commander BURKE. Yes.

Comrade SILLER. You have no legitimate objection to us calling a 10-minute recess at this time.

National Commander BURKE. If the convention wants a recess you will get it.

Comrade SILLER. Pursuant to the Roberts Rules of Order, a motion to recess is not debatable.

National Commander BURKE. We are not debating, again if you want a 10-minute recess you will vote it "Aye." If you don't want a 10-minute recess you will vote "No."

All those in favor of a 10-minute recess will say "Aye."

Those opposed, "No."

The noes have it.

The national adjutant will proceed with the rollcall by States.

Commander FLOYD GROOTHUIS (Illinois, Chapter No. 28). According to your rules of order a motion is now in order to close the nominations. I so move.

National Commander BURKE. The motion is so moved the nominations be closed. Do I hear—

Comrade DONALD H. DUNN (District of Columbia). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. All in favor, "Aye."

All opposed?

Carried. The adjutant will proceed with the rollcall.

J. C. Broome has asked for the privilege of addressing this convention before the rollcall starts. Do you want to hear him?

The Chair at this time, for the purposes of an announcement, brings to the microphone from the 6th district the national executive committeeman from Mississippi, J. C. Broome.

Comrade J. C. BROOME. Comrade Commander, fellow national officers, delegates to the convention, ladies and gentlemen, it is with a great deal of reluctance that I am going to make the announcement I am going to. We came, we saw, we did not conquer. And to paraphrase a greater statesman than I will ever be, it is not bad enough to cry about, it is not good enough to laugh about. No candidate makes a race alone. He has to have support, and I want to say here and now that I appreciate more than words can tell you the fine support, the hard work, the degree of friendship that I developed here at the national convention in Buffalo, N. Y. A quitter never wins and a winner never quits, but I think since we have spent a week here in

the hardest of work, some of it very excruciating, if I can save you delegates and this convention any time, I will have rendered you a great service.

Now we came up here to register a protest against some things we thought were wrong. We have never changed our minds yet, we still think it is, but there is a time when to draw out any contest is a waste of everybody's time. And listening to the yeas and the nays in this convention it is evident that I don't have enough support to get elected. Why should we draw out this convention hours on end? Let me say to the national officers I wish them well. I will do what I can for the disabled veteran, I will never cease to do that; first because I am one, and second because I have two sons who are gunshot victims.

I appreciate the good time that I have had here, I appreciate the friendships, but I wish at this time to withdraw my candidacy as gracefully as I may, and thank you.

Comrade DUNN (District of Columbia). I would like to make a motion that we cast one ballot for our vice and give Mr. Broome a rising vote of thanks for his fine sportsmanship today.

National Commander BURKE. Any discussion?

Comrade DUNN. I should have said that the adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Paul Frederick as our next national commander.

National Commander BURKE. All those in favor, say "Aye."

All opposed?

The ayes have it.

National Adjutant CORBLY. In accordance with your instructions, I, as national adjutant, cast a unanimous white ballot for Paul Frederick as national commander of the Disabled American Veterans for the 1957-58 year.

(The convention rose to applaud Mr. Frederick.)

Comrade HENRY RIVLIN (Pennsylvania, Chapter No. 22). Comrade Commander, I now move you that the rules of the convention be suspended so that we can go into the election of the slate of Commander Frederick.

Comrade HAROLD. (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. All those in favor?

Opposed? Hearing none, the slate will be read by the national adjutant.

National Adjutant CORBLY. National senior vice commander, H. L. Davidson, from Georgia.

National first junior vice commander, Harry Wentworth, of California.

National second junior vice commander, Paul A. Harmon, from Omaha, Nebr.

National third junior vice commander, Howard H. Fairbanks, from Wisconsin.

National fourth junior vice commander, Gordon N. McDonald, from Minneapolis, Minn.

National chaplain, Rabbi Louis Parris, from Philadelphia.

National judge advocate, Sylvester Hoffmann, from California.

Comrade JOSEPH HAROLD (Massachusetts, Chapter No. 10). Comrade Commander, I make a motion that the adjutant cast one ballot

for the unanimous election of the slate of Paul Frederick, the national commander.

Comrade FLORENA (Blind Veterans). Second.

Past National Commander WATTS. Past national commander Watts is very happy to second that motion.

National Commander BURKE. Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor say "Aye."

All opposed?

The ayes have it.

National Adjutant CORBLY. As national adjutant and in accordance with your instructions, by unanimous action, I cast the unanimous white ballot for senior vice commander H. L. Davidson, first junior vice commander Harry Wentworth, second junior vice commander Paul A. Harmon, third junior vice commander Howard H. Fairbanks, fourth junior vice commander Gordon N. McDonald, national chaplain Rabbi Louis Parris, and national judge advocate Sylvester Hoffmann.

National Commander BURKE. If the delegates will quiet down I will bring to the microphone your new national commander, Paul Frederick.

National Commander-Elect FREDERICK. Comrades, I am very, very humble in heart that I stand here before you while the events are beginning to sink in to me. For you to have voted the confidence in me to represent you in highest office that this organization can give to any of its members, I truly deeply appreciate.

I have advocated for the past many months that anyone who is in a position of national commander certainly must be an individual dedicated to the cause of the organization, the cause of you members, the cause of those who through disabilities from service cannot be with us here today.

May we always take into consideration—I want to assure you that taking all these things into consideration the next 12 months of my time certainly will be dedicated along those lines and I am certain that the action will be evidence to you as the months go on.

I hope you stay with us through the evening hour. Godspeed you home and we will be seeing you. Thanks a lot.

National Commander BURKE. Don't forget, we have the membership trophy to award. Who is going to receive the membership award for Michigan?

National Adjutant CORBLY. All the newly elected national executive committeemen please come to the platform, as well as all the members of the Paul Frederick slate; come immediately. Please stand by until the officers are installed and the trophies are awarded.

Comrade JOHN FEIGNER. Membership award for the year 1956-57 for the largest membership gain for the year goes to the State of Michigan.

That is the Mays trophy. I present it to the department adjutant of Michigan, Comrade Sylvester, and hope you come back next year with a larger gain than that.

Comrade LAWRENCE SYLVESTER (Michigan, Chapter No. 9). Thank you. We have plans of retaining this trophy for next year.

Comrade FEIGNER. Is there a delegate in the house from Utah? Will he come forward, please?

Membership award for the highest percentage membership gain for the year 1956-57 goes to the State of Utah.

National Executive Committeeman TRACY ASTLE. In the absence of the delegate from Utah, I am doing so for him, to give to the department commander of Utah.

Comrade FEIGNER. It is yours to hold for 1 year, and if you can come back with the highest percentage gain for membership, you can take it home again.

National Executive Committeeman ASTLE. Thank you.

(Following the trophy awards, National Commander Burke installed the newly elected officers.)

National Adjutant CORBLY. Comrade Commander, I move you, sir, before P. D. Jackson does, that this 36th National Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans stand adjourned.

Comrade P. D. JACKSON. Second the motion.

National Commander BURKE. Motion made and seconded. All those in favor say "Aye."

Opposed?

The ayes have it.

(Whereupon, at 7:50 p. m., the 36th National Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans was adjourned, sine die.)

